



WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10 1990

LAST MONTH'S
AVERAGE DAILY SALE
445,000
No 63,599

Brooke urges Ulster talks on devolution

'Enough in common to break deadlock'

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, signalled yesterday that he believed there was now sufficient "common ground" among the constitutional parties to form the basis of talks towards a devolved government for the province.

In a keynote speech, he urged the constitutional parties to seize the opportunity to begin such talks.

Mr Brooke's remarks, which officials worked on throughout Monday, were seen last night as an attempt to break the political deadlock.

It was notable for its use of terms aimed at helping the province's politicians overcome obstacles created by their past attitudes towards the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

Mr Brooke told businessmen in Bangor, Co Down, that his recent round of discussions with party leaders had convinced him that there was widespread support for some measure of devolution.

But the Secretary of State issued a warning that converting these hopes into constructive dialogue would not be easy. "I would not wish to raise hopes unduly," he said.

"Much work needs to be done, but there may now in my judgment be enough common ground to make worth-while the start of talks soon on new arrangements for exercising political power within Northern Ireland. I do hope that politicians here will make the most of the opportunity which may now exist."

Mr Brooke's comments reflect a general underlying sense of optimism within Ulster political circles that an opportunity for inter-party talks may present itself in the coming months.

The positive evidence for that has been the mounting sense of impatience with the political deadlock and, more importantly, the steady apparent dilution of Unionist preconditions for coming to the negotiating table.

Just six months ago Unionist leaders were uniformly and rigidly adhering to their call for the scrapping of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, signed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Charles Haughey.

That consensus has now been broken as the more progressive among them, notably Mr Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, have publicly explored the possibility of using a gap of some kind between Anglo-Irish Conference meetings together with a temporary redeployment of civil servants at the Anglo-Irish Secretariat, to create an opportunity for talks.

It was notable that Mr Brooke went out of his way to reassure Unionist opinion

MP hails verdict as moral victory



Mr Ron Brown, the Labour MP, leaving Lewes Crown Court with his solicitor, Mr Chris Lethem, after being fined £1,000 for causing criminal damage at the home of his former mistress, Mrs Nona Longden. He was acquitted of theft. Mr Brown described the outcome as a "moral victory." (Report, page 3).

Speaker suspends House after row

By Robin Oakley
and Sheila Gunn

Personal allegations against a minister by a Labour MP yesterday brought the biggest parliamentary clash seen by viewers since television came to Westminster last autumn.

They came after claims that Mr Michael Forsyth, Scottish health minister, had links through a public relations company to firms which could benefit from lucrative NHS contracts.

The allegations led to the suspension first of a Commons standing committee examining the National Health Service Bill and then of the House of Commons itself after a furious procedural argument.

The Government was embarrassed when Sir Geoffrey Howe finally agreed to withdraw a draconian motion he had proposed to give the committee chairman, Dame Janet Fookes, powers to suspend the Labour backbencher, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, MP for Workington, who defied her rulings.

The MP promised not to repeat his disruptive behaviour at future sittings of the committee.

But Conservative MPs and ministers were furious that the Speaker, who appeared to change his mind more than once, in effect allowed Mr Campbell-Savours to make in the Commons the detailed speech that he had tried to make in committee containing allegations about the business connections of Mr Forsyth, Minister for Health in the Scottish Office and chairman of the Scottish Conservative party.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Health Secretary, intervened in the Commons during Mr Campbell-Savours' speech. Continued on page 24, col 4

Plea for calm during Gorbachov visit

President Gorbachov will arrive in Lithuania tomorrow, a day after he was originally expected, a Communist Party official here said last night.

Mr Vladimir Beryozov, the Lithuanian party Second Secretary, said Mr Gorbachov would tour the Baltic republic, ending his visit by attending a local party meeting at the weekend.

The announcement of the Thursday arrival came after confusion about the date of the Soviet leader's visit to the republic, where local Communists last month voted to set up their own party, independent of Moscow. The Kremlin has not yet officially confirmed the date.

Sajudis, Lithuania's nationalist mass movement, yesterday decided to go ahead with plans to stage rallies to demonstrate local support for independence, despite objections from the newly-formed Lithuanian Communist Party.

After a hurried meeting yesterday between Sajudis and local Communist leaders, Mr Vytautas Landsbergis, the chairman of Sajudis, confirmed his organization's decision to stage the rallies.

Yesterday Mr Beryozov appealed to the people of Lithuania to "behave themselves in a calm, European manner without fevers or passions" when they turned out at rallies to mark Mr Gorbachov's visit.

In Lithuania Mr Gorbachov will join a team of senior party officials from the party's Central Committee in Moscow. The Central Committee will decide on what action should be taken later this month.

Mr Landsbergis said: "The rally could cause some unpleasantness and turmoil for Mr Gorbachov. We are calling on our people not to make any rash or hurtful statements during the demonstration. We want them to show their determination for independence but we don't want them to do that in a loud, aggressive way."

Armenian snub: Armenian Communists snubbed a top Azerbaijani comrade yesterday, underscoring tension between the two republics over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh district in the Soviet Union's troubled south (Reuter reports).

Party activists in mainly Armenian Nagorno-Karabakh walked out of their offices in the capital, Stepanakert, rather than meet a delegation led by Mr Abdul Vezirov, the Azerbaijani Communist Party chief, leaving the visitors stranded at the airport.

Transferring to freedom

● The Ceausescu family ran their country's football teams to suit themselves, demanding the best players and manipulating results. We continue our series on Romanian sport after the revolution with a look at how the authorities are trying to bring reality back to the game: page 42

Women at the helm

● The all-women crew of Maiden have confounded the critics, and proved their sailing prowess, by leading their class in the Whitbread Round the World race: page 17

PORTFOLIO PLATINUM

● Four people shared yesterday's Portfolio Platinum £4,000 prize (see page 3). Today's chance to win £22,000: page 30

Weightlifting drugs inquiry

The Sports Council is to investigate doping control in weightlifting after Dean Willey became the first athlete to be dropped from a British team for the Commonwealth Games because of a positive drugs test.

The Council yesterday announced that it had agreed to a request from the British Amateur Weightlifters Association (BAWA) to review drug control procedures. Page 46

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Cost of petrol goes up as world oil prices fall

By Colin Narborough, Economics Correspondent

The return of mild weather in the United States has triggered a sharp drop in world market oil prices, but it comes too late to prevent a steep rise in prices at the petrol pumps in Britain.

Today Shell raises the price of a gallon of leaded four-star by 5.5p to 189.1p to reflect the surge in oil product prices during extremely cold weather across the Atlantic recently. British Petroleum has already put up its price 3.2p to 186.9p.

Despite the appearance of forecast prices moving the wrong way, the oil companies reject any suggestion of embarrassment, pointing out

that the latest price increases are merely passing on with a time lag, rises in the international markets before Christmas. Pump price changes always trailed spot market developments, BP said.

Shell said it could look at new price moves next week.

The recent surge in petrol and diesel prices on the international market came after strong US demand for heating oil made refiners switch production away from other products. The fall in the crude oil price is of less impact, as crude accounts for only about a third of pump prices.

Salmonella in eggs

No return for 'little lion'

By Sheila Gunn
Political Reporter

A call for British eggs to be stamped again with the "little lion" symbol to help consumers avoid imported eggs carrying higher health risks was yesterday rejected by the Government.

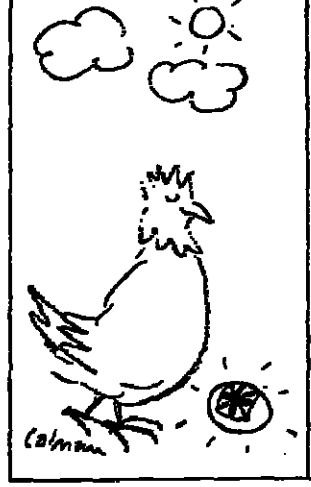
European Community rules ban the marking of individual eggs with the country of origin although boxes can be labelled. The Commons agriculture select committee had called on ministers to fight for a derogation because of the health risks from imports.

However, Mr David Maclean, Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, replied that it would take months to fight for a derogation which probably would not be granted. Instead, he said, he would focus on improving Community health standards.

"What we could do tomorrow is mark every single packet of eggs. We will be encouraging supermarkets to stock eggs which are British only and we can put up signs in the shops saying they are only British eggs," he said.

The cross-party committee's second investigation into salmonella found that British eggs are safer than imports because of the tighter checks brought in since Mrs Edwina Currie provoked the salmonella-in-eggs scare.

However, the new controls and the results of the scare, when consumption dropped,



are putting British producers out of business while causing an increase in imports. They rose from around seven million a month last February to more than 58 million in September, Mr Jerry Wiggins, the committee chairman, said: "The Government spent a lot of money cleaning up British industry, therefore it is ridiculous to import a lot of eggs with lower standards."

"We were not happy that eggs come from countries with lower standards."

Continued on page 24, col 1

BBC censors 'independent' report on Radio 3

By Richard Evans
Media Editor



The BBC censored a critical report about Radio 3 broadcast this week on *See For Yourself*, the supposedly independent and impartial review of the corporation's annual activities.

Mr Michael Checkland, director general, intervened personally after Mr John Drummond, controller of Radio 3, threatened to resign if the eight-minute item was screened in its original form.

Fundamental changes were subsequently made to the report, commissioned by the BBC from Chrysalis Television, a leading independent programme maker, resulting in an "enormous internal row" inside the corporation, according to informed sources.

It is a good idea and entirely logical to let the licence payers see where their money is going. Gone, after all, are the old days when the BBC hid its head behind closed doors.

A quote from Terry Wogan, presenter of *See For Yourself*, in *Radio Times*. What viewers saw on Sunday evening was substantially different in tone and content from the original item made by Chrysalis at the BBC's request.

An interview containing criticism of Radio 3 was dramatically reduced in length by BBC staff, archive material was slotted in and the final re-edited version was remarkably complimentary

about Radio 3. The *See For Yourself* exercise began in 1987 and is very much the brain-child of Mr Marmaduke Hussey, the corporation chairman, who regards it as a much-needed exercise in public accountability.

The "shareholders' report", as he dubbed it, goes behind the scenes of the BBC and examines ways in which licence payers' money is spent. Last year, the BBC decided the reports on its various facets should be made by outside producers so that the programme was seen as being unbiased and fair.

However, after the large-scale changes made to the Radio 3 report, critics will suggest that *See For Yourself* is nothing more than a BBC propaganda exercise. Mr Checkland and Mr Hussey are due to

Continued on page 24, col 6

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Controls on farm grants criticized

Complaints of pollution from farm waste have nearly tripled in the past 10 years in spite of grants to farmers for clean-up projects, the National Audit Office (NAO) said yesterday.

An investigation by the NAO, the public sector's financial watchdog, found that neither government departments nor water authorities checked up regularly on the use of anti-pollution grants, resulting in some schemes not being completed to specification (Sheila Gunn writes).

It also disclosed that early grants given under the Government's diversification schemes to encourage farmers to venture into new enterprises are not always going to viable projects. The report complained that many of the grants, totalling £1.6 billion, given to British farmers since 1980 too often produced only small increases in income. The Commons Public Accounts Committee is expected to take evidence on the NAO's findings next week.

National Audit Office report: grants to aid the structure of agriculture in Great Britain. (Stationery Office, £4.60).

Terrorist jail appeal

A Palestinian terrorist suspected of being involved in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 appealed yesterday against a life sentence imposed in Sweden (Kerry Gill writes). Mohamed Abu Talb, aged 35, was jailed by a Swedish district court on December 21, exactly a year after 270 died in the Lockerbie disaster, for his part in terrorist attacks in Copenhagen and Amsterdam in 1985. Mr Owen-Erik Sjogren, his lawyer, said he would appeal to a regional court in Stockholm. Talb denies any involvement in the Lockerbie bombing.

Burglar kills rector

The Rev Stephen Hilliard, a Church of Ireland rector, died yesterday after his throat was cut as he tackled an intruder in his home. He was found by his wife Betty at the foot of the stairs in their house in Rathdrum, Co Wicklow. He was taken to a Dublin hospital but died a few hours later. Mr Hilliard, aged 42, was ordained in 1986 and had taken up ministering in Rathdrum only three weeks ago. He was a journalist with *The Irish Times* for 18 years.

North Sea jobs bonus

A sub-sea construction company employing 1,100 highly-skilled oil industry workers has been set up in Aberdeen to provide services for the new generation of North Sea oil fields (David Young writes). The company, Rockwater, formed by Brown and Root Vickers, the off-shore construction group, and Smit, the Dutch specialist diving company, has won contracts to install the first seven emergency cut-off valves beneath oil platforms after the Piper Alpha disaster.

Sinn Fein man held

Mr Danny Morrison, the vice-president of Sinn Fein, was still in police custody last night after being arrested on Sunday in connection with an alleged kidnapping (Edward Gorman writes). Mr Morrison, whose office has denied that he was involved in an abduction, was among nine people arrested in west Belfast during a large-scale police and Army operation.

Castle to house opera

An early 19th-century folly, Gwrych Castle at Abergele in north Wales, is to be turned into a 2,000-seat opera house dedicated to the late Richard Burton, the actor, by Mr Nick Tavaglione, a Californian planning approval manager, if his £10 million scheme gets planning approval (Simon Tait writes). Mrs Rikman Sukarno, the opera singer wife of the former president of Indonesia, will also be involved at the "witch's castle" as she wants to start an opera school there.

RAF crews survive mid-air collision

By Michael Evans and Peter Davenport

The crews of two RAF jets, a Tornado and a Jaguar, escaped yesterday after a mid-air collision, apparently during separate low-level training sorties.

A board of inquiry was set up to discover why the Jaguar jet, flying in a formation of three spread over about half a mile, collided with a Tornado, which was flying in the opposite direction.

The pilot and navigator of the Tornado ejected before the aircraft crashed into the ground near Hexham in Northumberland. One of the men was believed to have broken both legs. Debris was scattered over two big roads, the A68 and A69.

The Jaguar clipped the tail of the Tornado, and was damaged, but the pilot managed to fly it to RAF Leeming in North Yorkshire.

There have been numerous complaints about low-flying exercises by RAF planes in the area of the accident. One witness said the two aircraft involved were operating at the "tree top level", and that the wing of the Jaguar, which was approaching from the south, clipped the tail of the Tornado, which was flying in from the north.

The Tornado flipped on to its side, and there was an explosion and a burst of flame before it plunged into a field adjoining the A68 at Riding

Mill. The road was blocked in both directions by the wreckage. One piece hit a lorry, but there were no reports of injuries on the ground.

The Tornado had flown from its base at RAF Leuchars in West Germany on a training sortie in the area.

It is common for single Tornados to fly over at high level from West Germany, carry out a low-level sortie and then return to base at high altitude. The Jaguar had taken off from RAF Coltishall in Norfolk.

Although it is not clear why the collision occurred, it is likely that the pilots failed to spot each other in time.

Neither aircraft would have been flying with its radar switched on, and the pilots would simply have been looking out for other jets in their vicinity.

The training sorties are arranged by the RAF so that there should not be too many aircraft in one area at any time.

The crew of the Tornado were taken to the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle, after being picked up by a Sea King search and rescue helicopter operating out of RAF Boulmer on the Northumberland coast.

In September last year, two RAF crewmen were killed when their Hawk jet crashed into a field after taking off from RAF Brawdy in Wales.

M25 fog detectors 'were not ready'

By Ruth Gledhill

Fog detectors which might have helped prevent the 45-vehicle M25 pile-up near Slough, Berkshire, were not installed because of technical problems, it was disclosed yesterday.

As a coroner opened inquests into the deaths of the five killed, including three members of one family, the Department of Transport disclosed that 18 months ago a report identified the place where the accident occurred as "fog-prone".

The installation of two fog detectors that might have helped prevent the multiple collision, in which 12 were also injured, was delayed because of computer software problems. The installation of a further 52 detectors in more than 30 other fog spots was also delayed.

The Department of Transport said yesterday that the detectors should have been operating by the beginning of this winter. It was unlikely that they would be ready before April or May.

The British Road Federation said

driver error was often to blame for accidents in fog. "But people deserve to be warned. It is a shame the system had not been introduced earlier."

Mr John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, called for a big investment in high-technology equipment to bring the increasing traffic using the motorway under tighter speed controls.

Pharos Marine, of Brentford, west London, manufacturer of the fog detectors, refused to comment.

The three members of one family killed in the accident at 10.15pm on Monday were Mr Roger Bean, aged 45, his wife, Irene, aged 46, and their daughter, Sarah, aged 22, all of Calverton Road, Stony Stratford, near Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

Miss Bean's boy friend, Mr Darren Colbridge, was seriously injured. The couple, who had planned to marry, had been on a new year holiday in Berlin.

Mr Bean, a director of Fred Cox Metals, scrap merchants, of Milton Keynes, and his wife had driven to meet

them at Heathrow airport and were going home when their car was involved in the crash in dense fog. Their car was crushed by a coach. Other cars, lorries and vans ploughed into the wreckage.

The other two who died were Mrs Harpal Saroya, aged 32, of the Bronx, New York City, and Mr Ousden Minhas, aged 52, of Cricket Close, Walsall, Birmingham. Two people in the car with them, Harjit and Hardip Minhas, were injured.

The M25, in spite of its problems, lies sixth in the motorway accident table. The M1, M2, M3, M4, M11, M23, M53 and M74 all have higher accident rates. The latest available figures show there were 21 deaths from 685 accidents on the M25 in 1987; it is not known how many occurred in fog.

Twenty three children from a middle school in Polesworth, Warwickshire, were taken to hospital in Tamworth, Staffordshire, last night after windows in their coach were broken by metal rods on a lorry. Three had eye injuries.

Striking ambulance officers keep fires of pay protest burning

Backbenchers say dispute may soon end

By Robin Oakley and Tim Jones

Ministers were continuing to take a tough line in the ambulance dispute yesterday, although Conservative MPs maintained that an end to the 18-week struggle was in sight.

Government sources were insistent that no more money would be forthcoming. The only purpose of any further meeting between National Health Service employers and the unions was for a settlement on a nine to 16 per cent rise over 18 months, terms that had long been available.

They were equally insistent that concessions from the ambulance officers—an agreement to drop the question of "linkage" with other emergency service workers' pay and to drop a demand for an 11.4 per cent single year increase—should be put in writing before further talks could take place.

However, Conservative MPs who met ambulance union representatives yesterday said last night that "talks about talks" between the two sides were likely to have started before an Opposition-staged Commons debate on the dispute tomorrow.

Mr Jerry Hayes, Tory MP for Harlow, said: "There is a lot of common ground if only both sides will see it." A settlement had nearly been achieved before Christmas and had broken down because of a "morass of mistrust and misunderstanding".

He believed that a settlement could be achieved without any "new money" on the basis of the £6 billion which had been "found" already.

Other Tory MPs who met Mr Bob Abberley, parliamentary liaison officer for the five ambulance unions, included Mr Richard Holt, MP for Langhaurgh, and Sir David Price, MP for Eastleigh.

There is considerable pressure among Conservative MPs for the Government to find a way out of the dispute,



Striking ambulance staff at the Deptford station, Old Kent Road, east London, burning scrap wood to keep warm as they continued their protest yesterday.

although without conceding terms that would lead to a flood of public-sector wage claims and an eventual loss of jobs as a result.

Mr Hayes said yesterday that the search was on for a mechanism that would guarantee the value of any settlement reached and that did not involve linkage with other workers, arbitration or a pay review body for officers.

While ministers were prepared to dig in for a long dispute rather than concede inflationary wage increases, there was a discernible willingness in government ranks to seek a way out of the damaging dispute if the striking officers could be persuaded to formalize the scaling down of their claims. The dispute figured at the first Prime Min-

ister's Question Time of the decade when Mrs Margaret Thatcher responded to an invitation from Mr Neil Kinnock to pay tribute to the ambulance workers at the scene of the previous night's crash on the M25 and to agree that it was inaccurate and insulting for them to be described as merely professional drivers.

Ignoring the reference to a previous description of some ambulance drivers by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, the Prime Minister said she gladly paid tribute to the ambulance workers, many of who were still working full time and providing emergency cover.

The Government wanted to increase the number of ambulance staff with para-medi-

cal skills and it was for that reason that the nine to 16.3 per cent pay offer was slanted towards those with para-medical qualifications, she said.

With both sides in the dispute keeping at arm's length yesterday, the mood in the capital hardened when the London Ambulance Service admitted it had immobilized 500 ambulances and vehicles normally used by the crews.

The National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) described the action as "disgraceful and irresponsible". It said: "It is hard to credit this action after unpaid crews again proved their dedication by rushing to the scene of the M25 crash."

London Ambulance said that because of the agreement with unions to cover emergen-

cies there were still between 160 and 180 "frontline" vehicles covering the capital.

A spokesman said: "We have immobilized the vehicles to stop crews using them in the kind of demonstration which blocked Trafalgar Square just before Christmas or to go shopping or generally to use them for purposes other than intended."

In a separate development, the Association of London Authorities said it was planning to talk to unions and London Ambulance about the possibility of setting up a temporary ambulance service of the kind introduced in the West Midlands.

Mrs Margaret Hodge, association chairwoman, said: "Londoners are being placed at risk from the inadequate

and unprofessional temporary service by the NHS management. We are taking responsible steps to do this, and would like the Government to do the same."

The association estimates that the dispute has cost London £7 million so far, £4 million of which had been used to pay police overtime.

However, the initiative was dismissed by the unions and the ambulance service. Mr Chris Humphreys, senior London officer for Nupe, said: "We have made clear we are not interested in seeing local authorities in London establishing a separate ambulance service. We need to get an ambulance service in London back into operation but the answer to that is to solve the dispute nationally."

Lean times ahead, graduates told

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

The days when a graduate could walk into a job in the City at a huge salary have vanished as fast as they came, the Association of Graduate Recruiters said yesterday.

Its annual report warned students that the "sell-off market", in which anyone with a degree could be sure of a job, was a thing of the past and urged students to be realistic about career prospects.

The association, which represents 550 big employers of graduates, predicted that the onset of economic recession over the next 12 months would lead to a slowing in industry's demand for graduates.

For the first time in recent years the association forecast that increases in graduate starting pay would fall below the rate of inflation as companies abandoned the use of high salaries to lure recruits.

Miss Helen Perkins, the association's chairman, said

big starting salaries offered in recent years had proved "counterproductive and inflationary" and forecast that the average starting pay offered to graduates in 1990 would be £11,000.

That figure represents a 6.5 per cent increase on the £10,327 average last year which was itself an 11 per cent rise on 1988.

The association predicted that while the number of graduates would grow by 2.5 per cent to 127,000 this year the number of graduates sought by industry and commerce would rise by only three per cent overall.

If the impact of high interest rates was worse than expected, growth in demand could be as little as 1 per cent, leading to problems for many graduates seeking work this summer.

The changed fortunes for Britain's graduates come after a year in which graduate salaries in the construction

industry rose by 24 per cent and those in the legal profession were up 16 per cent.

Average starting salaries paid to graduates in administrative and personnel jobs were under £10,000 while the highest went to those embarking on careers in computing, science, engineering and research.

Miss Perkins said that last year there were 20 times as many applicants for personnel and administration posts as there were for jobs in the higher-paid high technology areas of employment.

The association's half-yearly study also looked at the salaries paid to graduates as they were promoted.

It found that within one year two thirds of graduates were earning up to £12,000 and within three years a third were earning £14,000.

Despite the predicted drop in demand, Mrs Perkins said students graduating with good

degrees this summer would still be in demand. She said that students would be unwise to delay choosing jobs.

The trend towards leaving a career decision to the last minute would be reversed and it was important for final-year students to make decisions about their futures before the Easter break, she said.

Last year more than half of the companies seeking graduate staff were unable to recruit all they wanted and almost a sixth of all graduate vacancies were unfilled at the end of the year.

However, Miss Perkins said many companies had been "panicked" by predictions of a sharp drop in the number of teenagers in the 1990s.

As a result they had "elevated jobs to graduate status" without thinking about the consequences.

She said: "Graduates have been over-recruited and under-employed."

Economic and Monetary Union

Hurd urges EC to consider East bloc

By Andrew McEwen and Michael Kalpe

The European Community should consider the possible effects on the new East European democracies before entering into Economic and Monetary Union, Mr Douglas Hurd said yesterday.

The Foreign Secretary strongly linked the two questions and implied that the stability of a new, wider Europe could be affected.

"In debating the future development of the Community, we must keep in mind the overall European interest, including the interests of the newest European democracies," he told a meeting in London of members of the European Parliament and the United States House of Representatives.

Mr Hurd said the Community should make three main efforts this year — aid to Eastern Europe, progress towards the 1992 internal market, and a "practical and substantial" debate on EMU, which he described as "a longer term goal".

His speech showed that Britain has not dropped the arguments which it deployed unsuccessfully at the Euro-

pean Community summit in Strasbourg last month. It was unable to persuade the other countries to delay calling an inter-governmental conference on EMU in 1990, but still hopes to water down the proposals at the conference.

It has submitted proposals countering those prepared last year by a committee headed by M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission.

Mr Hurd said that EMU should be operated "in a way which is compatible with national traditions". Britain was the only country to have put forward its own ideas.

On Nato, Mr Hurd supported recent proposals by Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State, that the alliance should take on an increased political role as the military threat from the Soviet Union declines.

Mr Hurd said that it would be easy to forget the past aggression of the Soviet Union and its satellites. They had attempted to undermine the values of freedom and foist a failed system of socialism on the rest of the world.

"Against the rapid and radical change of the last few months, we now have to assess the changing role of institutions which were established in a different day and a different climate." The United States stake in Europe would remain crucial, he added.

Leading article, page 13



Mr Douglas Hurd: "Keep in mind the overall interest."

Funding change fuels research fears

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

Medical charities fear that changes proposed by the Government yesterday will lead to a large increase in the cost of the research they sponsor in universities and hospitals. The anxiety stems from recommendations announced by Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, intended to streamline the organization of government-funded research in universities, which costs about £1 billion a year.

According to the Association of Medical Research Charities, one side-effect could be higher charges for work supported by its members, and a consequent reduction in research.

The recommendations come in a consultative document that calls for changes to the long-standing system of dual support for scientific research.

Under this system, research projects are funded from two sources. Universities provide the overheads from the

annual block grant which they receive from the Universities Funding Council. This pays for salaries, equipment and buildings, and amounts to support of more than £670 million a year for science. Secondly, five research councils allocate more than £250 million a year in award grants for specific projects and the salaries of new, young researchers.

The plan is to transfer the cost of some overheads from the funding council's block grant to the research councils, so as to avoid disputes about who should pay for what. Mr MacGregor said: "The consultative paper proposes a new, clearer definition of the boundary. We propose that from the academic year 1991-92, universities and other institutions would continue to pay the salaries of academic staff contributing to Research Council projects and to provide premises free of charge."

"All other costs of these projects would be met by the research councils through their grants. The change in

responsibility would be reflected in the amount of grant which the Research Councils and the institutions receive from central government."

The medical charities fear that universities will attempt to recover the money they lose to the research councils by increasing the overheads they put on research that is funded independently. Such as that sponsored by the charities. The charities spend more than £100 million a year in this way.

● In an attempt to rejuvenate the flagging Midlands textile industry, Leicester Polytechnic is to set up a £1.6 million "automated knitwear research centre" and factory, where new knitting techniques will be tested.

Twenty-two companies and four universities as well as the Department of Trade and Industry will contribute to the three-year programme, which is designed to develop ways of reducing the market lead of Far Eastern countries in the textile industry.

Christmas book sales prompt new call to end price-fixing

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

The leader of the campaign to abolish the Net Book Agreement, which fixes prices, yesterday claimed a breakthrough after a dramatic increase in sales of reduced-price titles over Christmas.

Mr Terry Maher, chairman of Penguin, which owns 48 Dillons bookshops, has been a persistent critic of the agreement, which allows publishers to set minimum prices for most books. In November he flouted the spirit of the agreement by cutting the price of eight popular titles.

Although the books were among the small percentage not covered by the net book restrictions, his move was the

latest attempt to undermine the 27-year agreement.

Dillons' results for December showed a 35 per cent increase in total book sales on the previous year. But, more significantly, sales of the eight titles included in the promotion increased fivefold.

"Sales of the eight discounted titles represented 2 per cent of Dillons' total turnover in December. This is a remarkable figure given that the average Dillons bookstore stocks 60,000 titles in all," the company said yesterday.

All eight titles were among Dillons' top 50 Christmas sellers — while only two of the eight appeared in the top 50

for the trade as a whole. Mr Maher said: "The book trade's pessimists have once again been proved wrong. Promoted price reductions work — for books, as it does in all other areas of retailing. The NBA is an obstacle to the book trade's success." He is planning further initiatives to make the agreement a "dead letter".

"More publishers (as many already do) should now recognize their common interest with Dillons in achieving this aim. The book-buying public has had the experience this Christmas of purchasing new titles at discounted prices for the first time ever — and without doubt, they liked it."

The Bill is promoted by the Isle of Wight County Council and supported by Mr Field. Although he tabled an amendment to a motion objecting to other bills, he was only seeking to get all the Bills from the last session revived, which has now happened.

The restaurant One Sixteen, Knightsbridge, has not closed as stated in Jonathan Meades' "Eating Out" article on January 6. It reopened on January 3 after a Christmas and New Year break.

Reading The Times overseas Sunday 8p; Belgium 10p; France 10p; Germany 10p; Greece 10p; Ireland 10p; Italy 10p; Japan 10p; New Zealand 10p; Norway 10p; Portugal 10p; Spain 10p; Sweden 10p; Switzerland 10p; USA 10p; Tunisia 10p; USSR 10p.

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Tea in Gaddafi's tent and sympathy for the Soviet invaders

By Kerry Gill
The antics of Ron Brown, whether fuelled by alcohol, passion or concern over Britain's foreign policy, have stirred the media almost since his election as Labour MP for Leith in 1979.

However, his behaviour - including taking tea in a Bedouin tent with Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, visiting Afghanistan at the height of the Soviet occupation, dropping the House of Commons mace and, allegedly, being involved in extra-parliamentary activities with a woman in a Commons shower room - has been more of an embarrassment to his Labour colleagues than any serious threat to Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Not that he has not

done his best to wrest Scotland from the perceived yoke of Thatcherist policies. In 1982, Brown gingered up a rather lacklustre visit to Glasgow by the Prime Minister.

As Mrs Thatcher made towards the doors of the Holiday Inn, Brown lunged forward, shouting "You're not welcome here" and "Is this Poland?". The Government survived, but Brown was collared and fined £50 for a breach of the peace.

His unpredictability began to achieve public notoriety by 1981 when he sorely tried his Labour colleagues and rattled the Government by travelling to Afghanistan. There, he gave his backing to the communist regime, even posing

for photographs beside a Soviet tank. Later that year, Brown was suspended from the House of Commons after calling the Solicitor General for Scotland, then Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, a liar. Three months later, he was expelled again after holding up a banner saying "Hands off Lothian". The Labour chief whip co-operated with the Speaker by locking the Leith MP in a room in preparation for his being escorted out.

By 1984, Brown had established what was to be a continuing rapport with Colonel Gaddafi. Claims that he was acting to secure the release of imprisoned Britons were marred by the fact that his visit took place just months after Woman Police Constable Yvonne

Fletcher was shot from a window of the Libyan People's Bureau in London.

Two years ago, he achieved national notoriety in the celebrated mace incident. Brown took hold of the mace during a late night debate on social security benefits, but dropped it. Some MPs suspected that Brown might have been drunk but he said: "I'd only had a pint of Younger's Tartan. The bloody thing was heavier than I expected."

Brown has not offered a satisfactory answer to why he suddenly grabbed the mace. After a combined vote by both the Tories and his Labour colleagues, he was suspended from the Commons for 20 days. Infuriated by his refusal to apologize, Labour MPs withdrew the

party whip. He also had to pay the £1,000 repair bill. By now his future tenure of Leith was beginning to look shaky. His constituency Labour Party told him it expected better behaviour. Brown emerged to say: "The people of Leith are still behind me."

He was, and probably still is, right. His majority has risen from 3,000 in 1979 to a seemingly unassailable 11,327 now. Reports of a haemorrhage of support over the past two years have proved unfounded and, last October, he comfortably survived the reselection process.

Notably, if surprisingly, his wife May has stood by him. At critical points during his bizarre career, Brown has

disappeared on some obscure foreign mission. Just before his reselection meeting Brown, instead of lobbying for support within the constituency, was off in Moscow with the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee involved in negotiations concerning the Middle East.

Many say that it is Mrs Brown who holds his seat together while he conducts Leith constituency foreign policy whether in Colonel Gaddafi's tent or Albania.

After a notorious 10 years in the Commons, it is unlikely that his constituents will turn against him for what was nothing more than another spicy episode in the career of Ron Brown.

MP claims a moral victory as he is cleared of stealing

By David Sapstead
Mr Ron Brown, the Labour MP, who was fined £1,000 yesterday for causing criminal damage to his former lover's flat, claimed "a moral victory" at the end of the trial.

Sipping champagne, the member for Edinburgh Leith said that despite the fact it was "hard for someone of left wing tendencies to get a fair trial" in the Conservative-dominated South-east of England, he was delighted the jury had found him innocent of the more serious, indictable charge of stealing jewellery and two pairs of underwear from Mrs Norma Longden, his former mistress for three years.

Sentencing Brown, Judge Gower said at Lewes Crown Court: "The fact remains that what you did on that evening in Mrs Longden's flat was a disgraceful exhibition of uncontrolled bad temper for which you must be thoroughly ashamed.... had temper which spilled over into the commission of crime for which you must be punished."

Mr Edward Rees, Brown's counsel, said in mitigation that the MP was involved in negotiations to secure the release of British hostages held in the Lebanon, including Mr Terry Waite and Mr John McCarthy, the journalist.

Any sentence, he said, "may well have consequences that go beyond this courtroom." Brown said that he was "quietly confident" that hostages would be released this year but declined to discuss what contacts he had with the Middle East.

He also expressed confidence that the verdict on the "domestic" charge of criminal damage would not affect his political career or his standing with his constituents. "The more serious charge was not proven and that's very important for me politically."

"I don't think people in Leith will bother too much

about the criminal damage," he said. "I don't think I will get a front bench job but I wasn't in line for one anyway."

Under the 1981 Representation of the People Act the election of an MP is only declared void if he is found guilty of a criminal offence and detained for more than a year in prison. Brown said that MPs were "vulnerable" to cases such as this which were "cobbled together by two individuals," namely Mrs Longden and Mr Redmond.

Despite the disclosures of his lengthy affair during the trial, his wife May said: "She (Mrs Longden) was trying to break up our marriage but, after 27 years, it takes a lot to break up a marriage."

During the trial, Brown, who had pleaded not guilty to both the theft and criminal damage charges, was said to have gone to Mrs Longden's flat in Charles Road, St Leon-

ards, on April 25, the worse for drink. The prosecution said he had appealed to Mrs Longden to renew their three-year relationship which had ended the month before. When she had refused and then left with Mr Redmond to give the MP time to "sleep it off," he went about the flat smashing virtually everything of glass.

Police who were called to the flat recovered a note which Brown had written saying "love you, but it will never happen again" and also a smashed mirror on which the word "love" had been written.

Brown did not give evidence before the jury but his defence maintained throughout that it was Mr Redmond who had been angered by the MP's presence in the flat, had lost his temper and had then smashed the mirrors as he angrily pursued the MP around the woman's home.

Brown said he believed the police thought "I was a mixture of Jesse James and Rob Roy".

He added: "My regret is going to a certain flat alone - I should have taken someone with me. I will never make that mistake again."

"It has been a dreadful period for the last nine months. At times, emotionally, I have been at a very low ebb."

Mr Rees claimed the MP had visited Mrs Longden to recover "politically-sensitive" tapes, documents and keys to his Westminster office. Mrs Longden, aged 39, denied any knowledge of the existence of the tapes and also of trying to obtain up to £20,000 from the MP as a "settlement" for ending the affair.

Mr Rees said Brown's only source of income was his £24,000 salary as an MP and Judge Gower granted six months for the fine, compensation and costs to be paid.

Mr Rees said Brown faced the prospect of having to remortgage his home in Scotland.

Miss Nina Temple celebrating with her children, Rebecca, left, aged three, and Oliver, aged one, yesterday after the announcement that she will be appointed as general secretary of the Communist Party of Britain. Miss Temple, aged 33, may be the last to hold the post as the party debates its future in the wake of events in eastern Europe (Nigel Williamson writes). Miss Temple, of Hackney, east London, said she fully intended to "spend time with her family and enjoy life" while doing the £7,500-a-year job. She coded her appointment was a sign of changing times, heralding "a different style, a reappraisal of the party's purpose". Miss Temple succeeds Mr Gordon MacLennan.

Changing face of communism



Miss Nina Temple celebrating with her children, Rebecca, left, aged three, and Oliver, aged one, yesterday after the announcement that she will be appointed as general secretary of the Communist Party of Britain. Miss Temple, aged 33, may be the last to hold the post as the party debates its future in the wake of events in eastern Europe (Nigel Williamson writes).

Prize cash to help buy family car

Four winners shared yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize.

Mrs Catherine Pollard, a school secretary and barrister, of Crawley, West Sussex, struck lucky when checking the numbers on behalf of her husband.

"He had to leave early for a business meeting and asked me to do the competition for him so, in all fairness, I ought to hand the money over," she said. "But he will probably put it towards a new car which all the family will use anyway."

Mrs Valda Corney, of Dollar, Central Region, was another chance winner. "I do the competition very irregularly," she admitted.

The other winners were Mrs Rosemary Armfield, of Avescot, Oxfordshire, and Mr Arthur Nixon, of Fleetville, near St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Sentencing plans 'may be foiled'

By Quentin Cowdry
Home Affairs Correspondent

An independent report has given a warning that the Government's radical plans to reform sentencing policy could be foiled by resistance from the probation service.

The £125,000 study, commissioned to the embarrassment of ministers, by the Home Office, says that Britain's 7,000 probation officers see themselves primarily as social workers, representing the interests of offenders as much as the courts and public.

That conclusion, in the study's final draft which the Home Office received a few weeks ago, implicitly challenges the Government's belief that it can cut the jail population by introducing tough new non-custodial sentences for less serious offenders.

Ministers accept that for the strategy to succeed probation officers, whose job includes recommending and supervising non-custodial sentences, must become far more punishment orientated.

However, Professor Martin Davies of the University of East Anglia, which conducted the research, said yesterday that the probation service would have to change beyond all recognition.

"Officers will probably, on the face of it, go along with what the Home Office wants but if the courts don't see a radical shift in approach they simply will not use the new sentences."

The professor, a former probation officer and Home Office sociologist, said the issue was vital as parole changes to be outlined in a new Criminal Justice White Paper to be published soon would increase the jail population.

"The service is very conscious of the dilemma it faces: it wants, as much as anyone else, a smaller prison population but it can't bring itself to act as a punishment agent," he said.

The research, which says that probation training has drifted far away from its original focus on the penal system, was based on interviews with 1,200 officers.

Estate agents see signs of recovery

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The first signs of a recovery in the depressed property market are reported by Bernard Marcus, the estate agents, in a quarterly review of house prices published yesterday.

The company says that its review, covering the last three months of 1989, indicates a gradual return of confidence and of first-time buyers to the market, which had seen sales prices fall by an average of 20 per cent over 12 months.

By the end of the year, with much of London property selling at prices similar to those of 1987, the volume of activity finally began to increase.

At the beginning of October, the percentage of first-time buyers among newly-registered applicants at the company's offices was 10 per cent, but by the end of the year, the figure was 33 per cent.

"Nobody is claiming a 'miracle cure' for the property market - merely that after a prolonged period of weakness, the market is responding to treatment and is finally beginning to show signs of recovery," the report said.

Bernard Marcus, which has 75 offices in the London area, said 1989 would be remembered as the year in which the worst predictions of the market analysts and merchant bankers became a reality.

It began with the market in a state of near-stagnation, with very few first-time buyers. This led to a proliferation of "chains".

"However, by the last quarter of the year, a combination of realistic pricing, the introduction of more imaginative mortgage schemes and the gradual return of confidence in general was slowly bringing these same buyers back into the market. The new decade now begins with a clear and

Hospital director posed as potential donor

By John Young

A hospital director described yesterday how he posed as a potential kidney donor, using a false name, when he answered an advertisement in an Egyptian newspaper.

The advertisement, in Arabic, was headed "Urgent call for those with merciful hearts". It invited calls from donors with blood groups A or O and offered £10,000 plus expenses.

Mr Amine Saliba told the professional conduct committee of the General Medical Council that the advertisement contained the names and telephone numbers of two doctors. One was Dr Raymond Crockett, who was responsible for several patients at what was then the MCI Hospital in Ealing, west London.

The committee is hearing charges of serious professional misconduct against Dr Crockett, a Harley Street kidney specialist; Mr Michael

Bewick, a transplant surgeon; and Mr Michael Joyce, a urologist, who are alleged to have been involved in the sale of kidneys for transplant. All three deny the charges.

Mr Saliba said he was "very surprised" to see the advertisements in the *Al-Ahram* newspaper. He telephoned Dr Crockett's number and spoke to a woman he assumed to be his secretary.

He gave his name as Ali Ahmed and said he came from Egypt. He said he was willing to donate his kidney but he had a few questions to ask.

"Is it 10,000 Egyptian pounds or English pounds you are paying?" he asked. "It's £10,000 sterling," was the reply.

"Is it dangerous for my life if I donate a kidney?" The answer was no.

"Can I see a doctor to discuss it with him?" he asked. The answer was yes and that he could make an appoint-

ment with Dr Crockett. Mr Saliba said he was told his kidney would go to a patient from Oman.

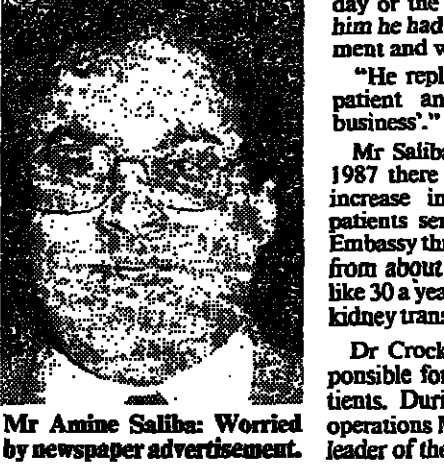
"I asked her where the operation was going to take place. 'Is it a good hospital?' She said, 'Yes it is a good hospital, the Wellington Hospital'."

Mr Saliba said that he saw Dr Crockett either the next day or the day after. He told him he had seen the advertisement and was very upset.

"He replied 'It is not your patient and none of your business'."

Mr Saliba said that during 1987 there had been a rapid increase in the number of patients sent by the Turkish Embassy through Dr Crockett, from about two to something like 30 a year. All were sent for kidney transplant and dialysis.

Dr Crockett had been responsible for assessing the patients. During the transplant operations Mr Bewick was the leader of the team of surgeons



Mr Amine Saliba: Worried by newspaper advertisement.

Parents to confront tobacco industry

By Jill Sherman
Social Services Correspondent

More than 100 famous parents yesterday launched a one-year campaign to prevent children from smoking by "building a blockade" between them and the tobacco industry.

The new organization, Parents Against Tobacco, has the Duke of Gloucester as its president. Members include Mr Richard Branson, the international businessman, Miss Hayley Mills the actress, and Sir George Young, a former junior health minister.

Parents Against Tobacco aims to stop illegal sales of cigarettes and curb the group's chairman. He said that, until now, too much of the debate had been between smokers and non-smokers. "We now intend to channel our energies into

confronting the tobacco industry directly. Our aim is to cut the industry off from its future by building a blockade between it and our children."

Local Parents-Against-Tobacco groups would be set up all over the country. They would publicize local retailers who ignored the law, he said. Consumer boycotts would be organized if they persisted in breaking the law.

The campaign is backed by 150 MPs from all parties. If the Government failed to act by the autumn they would support a private member's Bill pressing for tougher measures including a ban on promotional material in shop fronts.

One in five children aged 15 smoke regularly and about 300,000 children aged 11 to 15 are regular smokers. The celebrities yesterday urged the Government to make it mandatory for local authorities to survey shops and to prosecute those selling tobacco to children.

The group is calling for the maximum fine to be increased from £400 to £1,000 for a first offence and £10,000 for a third offence. A survey recently carried out in 212 shops in several areas of Britain found that one in two were defying the law and selling cigarettes to children.

The group will press Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to increase the tax on cigarettes.

The Tobacco Advisory Council yesterday accused the organization of going overboard in its confrontational campaign, with the "great and good" jumping on an emotional bandwagon.

"It is not a pandemic. Figures show that the number of child smokers are steadily falling," Mr Clive Turner, of the council, said. The number of cigarettes sold to those aged under 16 accounted for only 1 per cent of the £7.6 billion tobacco market, or £70m, he said.

MEP underlines role of tourism industry

By Shona Crawford Poole, Travel Editor

Tourism now employs 101 million people - one in 16 of the world's workers - and it is so important that every European country needs a full-time tourism minister, Mr Edward McMillan-Scott, a Conservative spokesman on tourism, said yesterday.

Mr McMillan-Scott, MEP for York and Tory spokesman on tourism in the European Parliament, told the "Wales Marches into Europe" conference in Llandrindod Wells that tourism had become the world's largest industry.

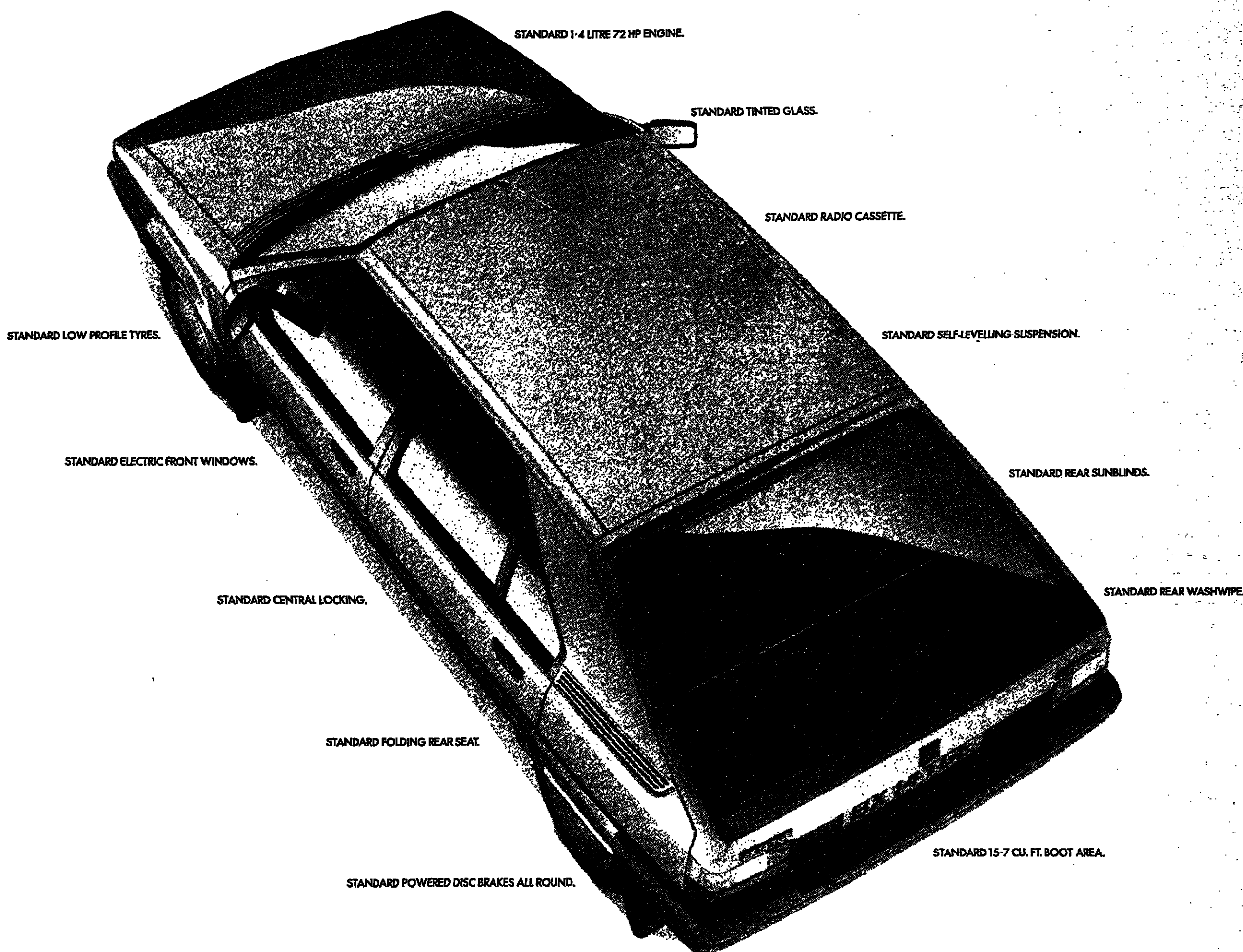
More than seven million American visitors to Europe last year boosted overseas visitor totals to record levels, but it was not clear yet whether the decline in Europe's share of world tourism had been halted, he said.

"Travel and tourism employment, investment, output and added value exceed those of the traditional industries in virtually every country, and in the developed countries, consumers spend as much on travel and tourism as on clothing or health care."

Mr McMillan-Scott is the architect of European Tourism Year, which will be opened in Dublin this month.

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Charity says health service ignores needs of infertile couples

By Jill Sherman
Social Services Correspondent

The needs of over one million infertile men and women are being ignored by the National Health Service, the self-help group Child said yesterday.

About one in six couples has infertility problems and an estimated 100,000 people are waiting for specialist treatment at the country's 37 health service and private centres, the charity says. One hospital has a seven-year waiting list and many couples have to wait at least three years for

specialist treatment from when they first visit their GP.

Some couples are given inappropriate or delayed treatment, because GPs refer them to local district hospitals which do not have specialist facilities, according to the group. Mrs Sarah Biggs, Child vice-chairman, said tests for fertility were often done at the wrong time by some hospitals resulting in some inappropriate treatment.

"If the money wasted investigating couples inadequately in district hospitals were to be directed towards regional centres,

most regions would be able to provide a service whereby patients are diagnosed accurately and quickly, leading to more efficient and cost-effective treatment," she said.

Launching a campaign for better facilities for the infertile, Mrs Biggs called for the creation of regional centres of excellence in reproductive medicine. "We would like to see one within 50 miles of most people," she said.

In many cases couples also have to contribute towards the treatment even if it is supposedly on the health service. Only two of the

health service centres, at Newham general hospital, east London, and St Mary's hospital, Manchester, are fully funded by the health service. Elsewhere, couples often have to pay £500 to £1,500 plus £1,000 for fertility drugs. Private treatment may cost £2,500 plus the drugs bill.

Mrs Biggs pointed out that under the health service reforms infertile couples are more likely to have to pay drugs bill because GPs may decide they cannot afford to prescribe them.

Mr David Bromham, a gynaecologist at St James's Hospital,

Leeds, said the health service "does very little for those whose reproductive system is not working as it should be. It is there to provide for those with ill-health, and infertility is an illness".

Guidelines to protect patients involved in medical research are necessary because of an "explosion" of scientific knowledge in the past few years, the Royal College of Physicians said yesterday (Thomson Prentice writes).

The safety of patients must be the overriding concern of doctors

in the face of complex ethical problems such as those produced by embryo research, genetic engineering and the development of new drugs, the college said.

Revised and updated guidelines for researchers were published in two reports by the college yesterday. They emphasize the need for patients to be fully informed of the implications of research in which they are asked to take part, and their rights to refuse.

Only in exceptional circumstances can there be an argument for not telling patients taking part

in trials of a new treatment that it might prove to be better or worse than established therapies, the guidelines say. Examples would be when it would cause more distress to reveal the nature of the investigation, or where the patient cannot understand.

Guidelines on the Practice of Ethics Committees in Medical Research Involving Human Subjects and Research Involving Patients. (The Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LE. £8 each, £14 if purchased together).

Tory council defies MacGregor over school-running cost

By David Tytler, Education Editor

A Conservative council is to defy the Government and run its own scheme to finance schools. It claims it will be unable to teach the National Curriculum if it accepts the Government's ruling on school budgets.

The Government has been criticized for insisting that school budgets should be set on average costs across the local authority area and not actual school-by-school costs when schools run their own affairs under the 1988 Education Reform Act.

Dr David Muffett, chairman of Hereford and Worcester education committee, said yesterday: "This is nonsense. The law requires us to deliver the National Curriculum but we will not be able to do it the Government's way."

Hereford and Worcester submitted a scheme which would have funded schools on actual costs but it was rejected by Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science. He has asked the council to think again.

Dr Muffett said that the council will not be revising its plans but will proceed with its rejected scheme from April next year. He said that the council is not required to introduce a government-approved scheme until 1993.

The Department of Education and Science said last night that schemes would be phased in across the country from this April. The Govern-

ment expected an approved scheme to be introduced in Hereford and Worcester by April 1991. "We would hope this can be done by negotiation but the Government does have the right ultimately to impose its own scheme."

Dr Muffett said his scheme included a "balancing clause" which allowed funds to be transferred to a school if it was failing to deliver the National Curriculum.

He said: "This could be because it could not afford to pay experienced teachers but there is a Baker's dozen of reasons why a school may need extra help. This cannot be done on a formula basis. If a school needs an extra £2,000 to put something right it is quite ridiculous to give £2,000 to our other 394 schools."

Dr Muffett said that the Government's scheme would deprive some schools "of many thousands of pounds worth of provision, while others will enjoy equally massive excesses of provision".

He added: "If after all our efforts we are then uncompromisingly ordered by the Secretary of State to take a course of action which, by that time I am convinced we shall have demonstrated conclusively, is unwarrantable and ill-advised, we shall at least know that we did our best."

At its meeting this week the county education committee unanimously approved the rebel plan which will be

considered at next month's full meeting of the council. University law schools are dismayed over proposals floated by Lord Chilver, chairman of the Universities Funding Council, that law courses should be entirely paid for by fee income from students, with no input from public funds (Frances Gibb writes).

In the face of the expected growth in student numbers, Lord Chilver had said that there were some courses, such as law, which is relatively cheap to run, which might be expected to pay for themselves entirely from fee income.

Such a move would mean that law students would have to pay the annual cost of courses themselves, about £2,200 a year, unless they could get loans or funding from big firms of solicitors.

Professor Graham Zellick, chairman of the committee of heads of Universities' Law Schools, said: "The practising profession and the academic community is alarmed in the extreme at this idea. The consequences of such a proposal would be absolutely catastrophic."

The academic discipline of law would wither as there "would be no-one to teach law and no one trained to teach law." He plans to raise the issue with Sir Peter Swinerton-Dyer, chief executive of the Universities' Funding Council.

Fledgling falconry firm flies high



Mr Simon Crook, who is receiving an Enterprise Allowance grant of £40 a week to launch a company making and supplying falconry equipment, flying his buzzard near his home in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear. Mr Crook, aged 21, who also owns two kestrels, started the

business after reviving a schoolboy interest in birds of prey. However, demand for his hand-made products is so great that he is soon to move from his semi-detached council house to a farm near the town. The move should also allow him to begin breeding birds. His

range of supplies includes gloves and perches and bird hoods which take up to six hours to make. "I was happy to be off the dole, doing something I loved," he said. "But it's a real bonus to have so much work coming in. Falconry seems to be enjoying a revival at the moment."

Body find leads to check on 6,000 boys

By Ronald Faux

Police in Cumbria yesterday began an operation to ensure that every boy in the county aged between one and three is alive.

The investigation will involve checking records of more than 6,000 children after the discovery of the badly burned and mutilated body of a boy dumped among domestic refuse on a council tip at Millom on December 1.

Every child in the Millom and Haverigg area of Cumbria has now been accounted for and police are widening the investigation, with 50 officers and the Home Office Large Major Inquiry System checking all available records to solve what is becoming a full murder inquiry with many puzzling facts.

Det Chief Inspector David Dawes, who is leading the investigation, said it was a case with no clues and no leads so far as to who the infant might be.

"The astonishing thing is we have had no reports of a missing child, no distressed parents or guardian of a child and we have ruled out all the sightings, nearly 100 of them, of anyone seen near the refuse tip on the evening before the body was found."

"Someone looked after him and fed him and someone other than the parents or guardian must have noticed that this toddler was no longer around."

Mrs Denise Cloude, Mayor of Millom, said: "I'm sure police were convinced it was a local child but now the search is being widened this is obviously less likely."

"I always doubted it could have been a local. This is a very close community where people take an interest in their neighbours. Someone would have noticed a toddler was missing. It is horrific and I think people have tried to put it to the back of their minds."

Forensic tests have shown that the boy was already dead when his body was abandoned on the refuse tip on the outskirts of the town, two miles from the nearest house.

Mr Mike Gilbert, a council worker found the body among newly dumped rubble on December 1. He believes the child had been left the previous night.

Other theories were that the toddler might have died in an accident after which the parents panicked and abandoned the body. Chief Inspector Dawes said: "If that is the case we appeal to them to come forward and clear up this mystery. It will be extremely sad if this baby boy simply ended up as an unknown in a common grave."

Remand on charge of murder

Michael Kyte, aged 48, was yesterday accused at Westminster magistrates' court, Wiltshire of murdering Miss Ruth Stevens, the missing bride-to-be whose blood-stained car was found abandoned in a London housing estate just before Christmas.

Mr Kyte, of Gloucester Walk, Westbury, is charged with murdering Miss Stevens, aged 33, who also lived in Westbury, between December 11 and January 9.

He was remanded in custody to appear before Trowbridge magistrates on February 8. There was no application for bail and reporting restrictions were not lifted.

In memory

A garden of remembrance is to be laid at the spot where an IRA bomb killed 11 Royal Marine bandmen in Deal, Kent, last September.

RAC apology

The Royal Automobile Club has apologized to thousands of motorists who, instead of receiving renewal notices, were told their membership had lapsed.

Student dies

Mr Stefan Dobinson, a politics student from Cleveland, fell to his death from a tower block at Lancaster University.

Drug overdose

Two staff have been suspended at Torbay hospital, south Devon, after a four-week-old baby was said to have been given an overdose of morphine when recovering from an operation.

Water charges

Three charges against South West Water, resulting from an incident when 20 tons of aluminium sulphate polluted drinking water, were adjourned until February 27 by magistrates at Bodmin, Cornwall, yesterday.

Arcade guide

Mr Robert Davis, a councillor in Westminster and chairman of an amusement arcade action group, has written a guide to how councils can regulate and control arcades and amusement centres.

Three killed

Three men died yesterday after their Ford Sierra car hit a tree in Sherwood Forest, Nottinghamshire, and broke in two.

Gala for Goodman clarinet movement

The world premiere of a movement from a clarinet concerto by Benjamin Britten, intended for Benny Goodman, the jazz musician, will be performed at a gala concert attended by the Queen.

Britten wrote sketches for the eight-minute piece when he was living in the United States at the start of the Second World War. However, when he returned to Britain, all his manuscripts were confiscated by US customs officials who thought he might be a spy writing in code.

When they were returned, the initial enthusiasm for the piece had passed and he was busy on "Peter Grimes", one of his most celebrated works. The sketches were put aside and have been in a drawer at the Red House ever since, a spokesman for the Aldeburgh Foundation said. The Red House was Lord Britten's

home at Aldeburgh, Suffolk. The sketches have been orchestrated by Colin Matthews, a composer who worked with Lord Britten and is a trustee of the Britten-Pears Foundation, which manages the estate.

Michael Collins, the clarinetist, will perform the Goodman role with Tamas Vassary conducting the Britten-Pears Orchestra at the concert at the Barbican, City of London, on March 7.

The Queen will be accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh. The aim is to raise the final £70,000 towards the £1 million Aldeburgh Appeal to safeguard Snape Maltings concert hall and the Britten-Pears School for Advanced Musical Studies.

Mstislav Rostropovich, the cellist, Ileana Cotrubas, soprano, Anthony Rolfe Johnson, tenor, and Richard Watkins, horn, will also appear.



Lord Britten: initial enthusiasm for score faded.



Benny Goodman: concerto written for the clarinetist.

Operators try to head off total ban

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Airlines fear the safety of long-range jets may be jeopardized by the trend towards a ban on smoking on inter-continental flights, if it leads to "furtive" smoking in toilets or other dangerous areas.

They are now mounting a campaign to persuade governments not to follow the lead of Canada, which surprised the aviation world by announcing a comprehensive smoking ban on all flights on Canadian-registered aircraft.

Many nations and airlines operate a smoking ban on short-haul services, but they have resisted an outright ban because, they say, surreptitious smoking would increase the risk of fires.

The Canadian government originally announced that its ban would take effect from the

end of last year, but after representations from Canadian Airlines, it delayed the introduction until July.

Canadian Airlines, which also owns the booming Wardair company, calculates that, if the ban were applied to the route to Japan, which traditionally carries the greatest proportion of smokers, it could lose 12 per cent of its revenue as passengers switched to rival airlines.

Other airlines fear the Canadian move could be followed by other governments and are anxious to put their case before they are caught in what they are convinced would be unwelcome legislation.

British Airways, which already bans smoking on domestic shuttle flights, says it takes passenger preferences

into account. "On some flights, especially within Europe, we have large non-smoking areas, but we keep the situation under constant review and react to the wishes of our customers at all times." Northern businessmen are increasingly choosing Air France rather than British Airways when they need to get to New York, because it is faster and costs £1,000 less.

They can fly from Manchester to Paris Charles De Gaulle airport to catch a Concorde to New York, pay £1,318 less for the return trip than from Heathrow, and still arrive an hour earlier.

Typically, a passenger would leave Manchester at 7.30am to fly to Paris on an Air France subsonic jet, transfer to Concorde and arrive in

New York at 8.45am the same day. If he went via Heathrow, he could leave an hour later and catch the British Airways Concorde leaving at 10.30am, but he would arrive an hour later than if he had transferred at Paris. He would pay £4,256 for the supersonic flight from Heathrow on a British Airways Concorde, compared to £2,938 with Air France.

Nonetheless, BA's Concorde flights are flying almost full on every trip.

Even with the lower fares, Air France claims that it is still making money from its Concorde services.

Regional airports are to double the amount of money they borrow to spend on developing new terminals and improving facilities in the coming year, to £59 million.

Witness says police told him suspect 'in IRA'

By Craig Seton

A prosecution witness at the trial of six men convicted of the Birmingham pub bombings said yesterday that a police officer told him just before he gave evidence that John Walker, one of the accused, was an IRA lieutenant.

Mr Noel Walsh, aged 40, a former public house landlord from Birmingham, said he thought the uniformed police constable was acting as an usher, showing witnesses into the court room at Lancaster Crown Court, during the trial in 1975.

Mr Walsh's claim came only a day after it was confirmed that Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, was considering other new sub-

missions on behalf of the six men convicted of bombing two Birmingham pubs in 1974, killing 21 people.

Mr Walsh, from Chelmsley Wood, Birmingham, said he had been called to give evidence about Patrick Hill, one of the accused, who drank with the others in the Crossways public house in Erdington, Birmingham, where Mr Walsh was landlord.

Mr Walsh said yesterday that he had been prepared to give evidence about Hill, who had arrived at the Crossways pub with a suitcase and said he was going to "bomb the town", which he had assumed was a joke. However, he said he had also been prepared to tell the court that he believed John Walker was innocent,

as he was not the kind of man who could carry out the bombings.

Mr Walsh said that shortly before he was called to give evidence, he had said he thought Walker was innocent while talking to police officers in a corridor outside the courtroom. He said the constable told him that Walker was a high-ranking IRA officer and then said: "Do you know Walker was an IRA lieutenant?"

Mr Walsh said yesterday that he was shocked. "It threw me. At the time I believed it. I felt disillusioned. You think you know a person and want to try and help, and then that is told to you. I was in a daze. I just wanted to get out of that court."

He added, however, that when he

gave evidence he was not given an opportunity to say that he believed Walker was innocent.

Mr Walsh, a married man with three daughters, said he had come forward after publicity about an inquiry into alleged fabrication of evidence by members of the serious crime squad of West Midlands police, the force which investigated the bombings.

Mr Walsh said: "I would be prepared to go to court and say what I know. This is not a grudge thing. I like the police, but you read about people being in prison for something they have not done. I would not say 100 per cent that all of the six are innocent, but maybe there might be some who had nothing to do with it."

Preserved genes may resurrect extinct animals

By Nick Nuttall
Technology Correspondent

Scientists are attempting to resurrect an insect that died more than 40 million years ago by using its preserved genetic code.

If they succeed, some researchers predict that other extinct animals, including dinosaurs, could also be resurrected from their remains. The fossilized insect, a fungus gnat, has been preserved in mineral amber with some of its genetic code in pristine condition.

Genetic engineers at the University of California believe that technology has advanced so far that strands of the insect's genetic blueprint can be excised. They plan to insert this code into the eggs of a living descendant to produce a clone of the ancient gnat. News of the work comes as Russian

scientists are trying to recreate the woolly mammoth from frozen specimens found in Siberia. In this case, they hope to insert strands of the mammoth's DNA, its genetic "building blocks", into an elephant's ovum.

Dr Harry Moore, a geneticist at London Zoo, said that the work highlighted the rapid pace of development in genetic engineering. He emphasized that techniques did not yet exist to replicate a living animal from the genetic code gleaned from blood cells, skin or other tissue. However, "the way things have moved in the last few years, it may be possible in 30 or 40 years."

At London Zoo, researchers are setting up a freezer bank to preserve the sex cells of endangered species, including the black rhinoceros. Dr Moore said that they were also planning to preserve genetic strands of

animals. The possibility that dinosaurs might be revived hinges on the hope that a well-preserved specimen will be found with some strands of DNA intact.

Dr Moore said there were already chemical techniques capable of amplifying a million times tiny amounts of DNA.

These techniques are being harnessed by scientists at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to map the genetic code of the bones of men who lived thousands of years ago. Such mapping reveals valuable clues about a creature's ancestry.

Dr Moore said that the zoo project was also designed for "the possibility of being able to transfer the strands into an appropriate nucleus". Half a billion animal species are thought to have once existed on Earth yet just two per cent are alive today, and the

numbers are falling. Extinction has almost invariably been at the hand of man.

Dr Cyril Walker, of the Natural History Museum, London, said that the museum was receiving an increasing number of letters from scientists asking for bits of extinct animals for genetic research.

"I have a letter on my desk at this moment from someone at the University of Cincinnati asking if I can send a bit of Dodo bone or two so he can look at nucleotide blood cells. All part and parcel of this whole business," he said.

Medical facilities at soccer 'amateurish'

Medical staff who treated casualties of the disaster at the Hillsborough football stadium yesterday attacked the "amateurish" medical facilities at soccer grounds.

They claimed that Lord Justice Taylor's interim report on the tragedy was wrong to conclude that a defibrillator—a machine which applies an electric current to the heart—could not have been safely used to help treat victims.

The medical personnel who tended the injured and dying after the crush at the FA Cup semi-final in which 95 Liverpool fans were killed have submitted their evidence to

the Taylor inquiry. Some were spectators at the match, while others responded to media appeals for help and went to the ground.

They have now formed the Medics at Hillsborough Working Party, which includes doctors, a nurse and a medical student, to make recommendations on the provision of emergency service at football grounds in future.

They recommend that committees of experts should be responsible for safety procedures at matches and similar events, and that their arrangements should be enforced by law.

THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Ceaulescu mythology flourishes in Dracula's domain

From Roger Boyes
Bran, Transylvania

The dogs howled. The peasant made a clucking noise to urge on his cart horse. Night had slumped on Transylvania and the towers of Bran Castle, poking up over the valley, were only darkly visible.

"We are all Draculas," some worthy German tourist has scrawled in the guest book of the 14th-century fortress that may, or may not, have been a residence of Vlad the Impaler. Nicolae Ceausescu was obsessed by Vlad, the model for Bram Stoker's Dracula.

Now there, according to Ceausescu era history, was a true Romanian leader! Firm with his people but fighting for independence from the Turks (read, in modern times, the Russians).

With his political vision, his diplomatic expertise and his great military capabilities, he embodied the very spirit of history," said a Romanian journal in 1977, on the 50th anniversary of Vlad's death.

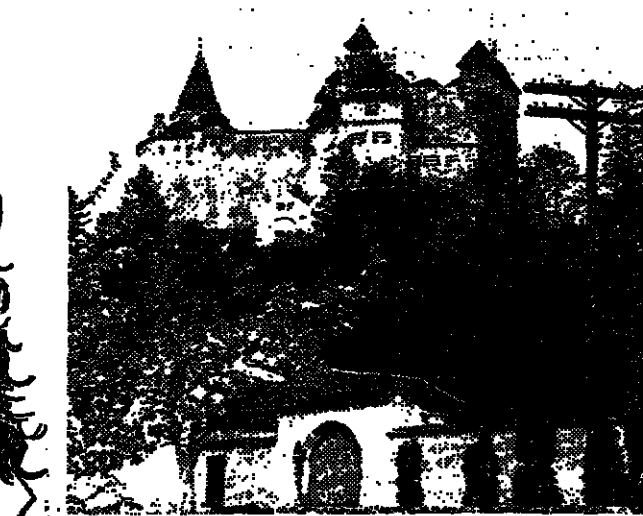
In case anyone missed the point, Elena Ceausescu told her husband in a speech: "A man like you is born only every 500 years." First Vlad, then Ceausescu. Only another



Vlad the Impaler, model for Dracula, who was worshipped by Ceausescu and Bran Castle.

499 years to go. Ceausescu bent history, deformed it as will. In the Ceausescu museum in Bucharest — the leader with sceptre, his honorary doctorate robes, his respectful Pergamon Press biography, his collected speeches in Korean, photographs with Mr Richard Nixon and the Queen — the main point is to establish him as a man of destiny.

A line is drawn from Vlad to Ceausescu and communism



gets little mention. Dracula, of course, had to be cleaned up if he was going to serve a useful modern purpose. No more blood sucking.

In the Borgo Pass (remember Bram Stoker's invitation: "My coach is waiting for you at the Borgo Pass and will bring you to my castle — your friend, Dracula"), which really bears the name Pasul Tihuta, there were plans to build a Dracula hotel with loudspeakers that would greet tourists

with recorded wolf howls. Ceausescu cancelled the project.

In each of the many stations of Dracula's life — in Bran, in Hunedoara Castle, in Brasov, in Bistrita (where the hapless Jonathan Harker spent his last night before falling victim to the Transylvanian prince) there is no mention of vampires or blood-letting. Vlad emerges as a decent, if sometimes painfully misunderstood figure. In Sighisoara, the

local council was ordered not to sensationalize Vlad's birthplace. There is a simple plaque and, inside, a scrappy restaurant whose menu has marginally improved since the new revolutionary leadership banned food exports.

Vlad the Impaler earned his nickname by sticking Turks on to sharpened poles until their stomachs exploded. Once, when questioned by a vassal how he could possibly eat breakfast surrounded by the stench of so many corpses, Vlad humorously insisted on impaling him on a particularly high pole so that he "could breathe cleaner air". Turks on poles were positioned along the roadside like mileposts.

Nowadays, the stench around Bran wafts over from the factories of nearby Cluj and Brasov, and from the poisonous exhausts of Dacia cars.

The poles have been replaced by billboards which until Christmas bore portraits of a surprisingly youthful Ceausescu and some of his more memorable sayings.

Now they are just blank spots and the posters are scraped clean. Children make snowmen with funny Ceausescu-like faces and sticks

through the heart. The revolution has arrived.

"I must tell you," says a guide to Bran Castle, "nobody knows whether Vlad really lived here." Previously he was not allowed to confess such doubts; since Christmas he can utter the heresy.

Vlad, like Ceausescu, his spiritual descendant, had castles everywhere. Since Bran was the most imposing in Transylvania — it juts up like a Disneyland fantasy — and since nobody dared to challenge Vlad's authority, it follows that he took over the property.

There is no other evidence. A more likely bet is Hunedoara. This, plainly, was a model for Ceausescu: a network of escape tunnels stretch underneath the most into the countryside. Fast stations, rather than white helicopters, awaited him. Ceausescu grasped better even than the leaders of neighbouring Communist countries that the country could not be governed solely from the capital.

Instead, like Vlad, he rotated residences. On the shore of the Snagov lake, both Vlad and Ceausescu had summer houses. Ceausescu's had a yacht harbour, a fine park, and

inside the usual marble and gold. Vlad's was more modest. It contains his grave, or at least a grave plate. Here Vlad fell, in 1477, fighting the Turks. That is the version of the Ceausescu historians. The other legend is that he was attacked from behind by a former friend and decapitated. Bram Stoker's Dracula, it will be recalled, had his throat cut while a knife was run through



his heart. He then decomposed, leaving a pile of dust.

Ceausescu's death is already the subject of legend. Not everybody in Romania believes that he was really shot. Perhaps a deal was struck that allowed the dictator to escape abroad?

It is a mark of the new freedom that such subjects can be discussed openly with

Romanians across a Transylvanian restaurant table. The crucial thing is that most Romanians — above all the Securitate killers — actually believe that the dictator is dead.

Whether he has really become a pile of dust is not, two weeks into the revolution, of great political importance.

But the mythology of Ceausescu's death is encouraged not only by the hasty military trial and the heavily edited pictures of his corpse. Why were there no pictures of Elena's corpse? And what has happened to the corpse? There appears to have been an argument within the revolutionary leadership as to whether to embalm Ceausescu or cremate him. Either way, the mummy or the ashes would have to be removed from Romania.

As if bound by some primitive superstition, nobody in the revolutionary leadership wants to discuss this grisly subject.

In Bran, meanwhile, they are resorting to more traditional antidotes — chewing garlic and erecting wooden crosses on the wayside — lest the deposed dictator return from the dead.

Top dissident calls for protests

Romanians 'face Communist danger'

From Christopher Walker
Bucharest

One of Romania's most prominent dissidents under the Ceausescu regime has warned her countrymen that Communists who served the executed dictator now threaten to regain control of the country. She urged workers to take to the streets in renewed demonstrations.

Mrs Doina Cornea's warning came as a crowd of up to 1,000 Romanians besieged the passport office in Bucharest to obtain travel documents in the wake of a government decree allowing free travel abroad.

But the lifting of the travel restrictions was tempered by growing criticism of the National Salvation Front which seized power from Ceausescu last month.

Mrs Cornea, one of the country's most distinguished dissidents, said in an interview in Cluj: "Now is the time to demonstrate. If the workers are strong then they can keep the revolution going."

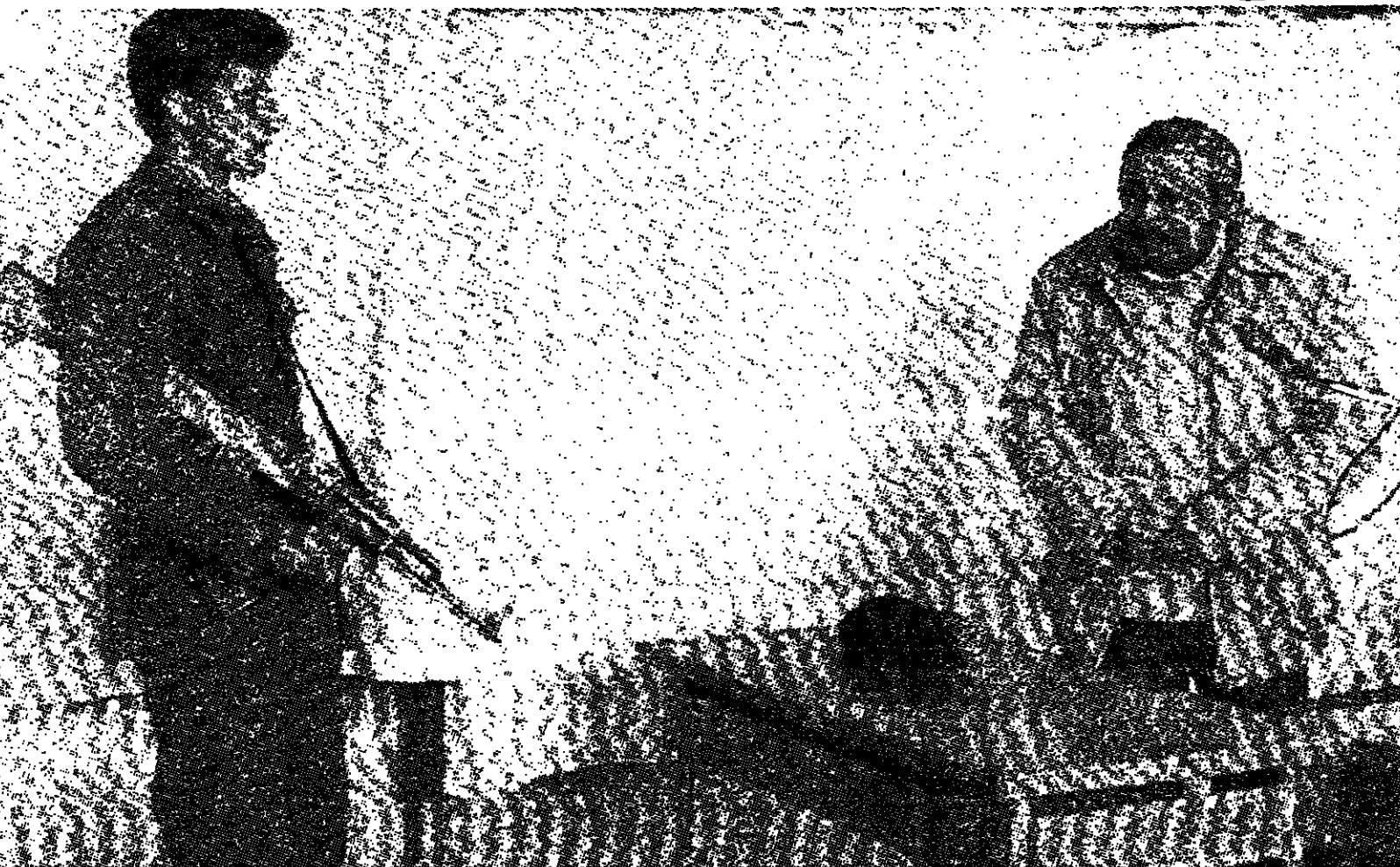
"The people are unhappy. Every day workers come to see me and say: 'Why did you carry out the revolution, can't you see that the same old people are still in power?' People are beginning to control the situation with fear and threats."

In the face of a growing number of shootings and lynchings, the interim Government yesterday issued an urgent appeal for calm and urged the people not to indulge in revenge killing against supporters of the former Ceausescu regime.

The appeal was broadcast nationally and published in the Romanian press. It also called on the population to abandon the Stalinist practise of anonymous denunciations widespread under the old dictatorship.

The majority of the revenge attacks against suspected collaborators appear to have been taking place in the provinces, where the Army's grip is less secure. Even in the capital, there have been a number of unexplained shootings in recent days.

The appeal mentioned "executions without trial" and



Under guard: Major Ion Budea, Sibiu militia chief, at his trial for attempted murder during the Romanian revolution. He was sentenced to nine years' jail.

reports spoke of whole families being terrorized.

"These are criminal actions which are happening and remind us of the old dictatorship," the statement said. "They are foreign and completely opposed to the new democratic climate."

In diplomatic circles the decision to issue the appeal was seen as confirmation of fears that the country could again be plunged into instability if law and order cannot be restored quickly. The call coincided with the opening of the first televised trials of those who violently opposed the December revolution.

Although the death sentence was abolished after last month's execution of the Ceausescus, the widespread desire for revenge is symbolized by the grotesque effigy of the former dictator which still hangs by a rope from a

snow-covered tree near the centre of Bucharest.

Shrines to the dead which dot the city's streets, attended at all times by large crowds with candles, and the photographs and death notices of

Geneva (Reuters) — Princess Margherita, eldest daughter of King Michael, the former king of Romania, and several friends of the country living in the West have formed an association to safeguard Romania's artistic and cultural heritage. The group aims to reverse the destruction of culture under Ceausescu.

victims still appearing daily in the newspaper, *Romania Libera*, have helped to maintain a high state of emotion against those who fought in defence of the Ceausescus.

Typical of the ugly new mood is the large notice

pinned to a wall in the city centre. "Citizens. Check your papers and check among those around you," it demanded. "It is not a matter for shame. The criminals are amongst us." Instant identity checks have become commonplace, particularly on public transport.

Because of the ubiquitous nature of the old security police, many ordinary Romanians have strong suspicions about individuals they believe may have been connected with it. Observers doubt that government appeals can prevent continuing acts of revenge as feeling against the excesses of the old rulers runs so high.

In the heavily-guarded radio and television headquarters, the engine room of the revolution and the main source of information about the birth pangs of the new

order, lights are switched off at night for fear of snipers. Studios in certain key areas remain out of bounds because of their proximity to the concealed network constructed by Ceausescu.

In remote regions of the country, security alerts are still commonplace with the conviction reported to be widespread among the new leaders that counter-revolutionary violence can be expected. Urgent measures are being taken to boost security at Bucharest airport in case of sabotage attacks against flights of the national airline, Tarom.

Most Romanians remain convinced that "foreign agents", notably Arabs, were involved in the defence of the old dictatorship. The conviction has been unshaken by repeated denials from the Palestine Liberation Organization and a number of

Arab governments that their nationals took part in the fighting. As a result, diplomatic reports speak of many Arab students afraid to venture out for fear of attack.

Prison riot: The Army was forced to take control of Bucharest's main prison yesterday after three days of rioting, apparently over a government amnesty (Reuters reports). Relatives of prisoners said three had been killed but officials only said that 10 inmates were injured.

An army major at the prison said the situation was under control. About 100 inmates were due to be released yesterday from the prison, about 10 miles outside Bucharest, under an amnesty decreed by the National Salvation Front last month. The major said long-term inmates not affected by the amnesty attacked prison guards.

Threat by New Forum fails to gain support

From Ann McElvoy, East Berlin

East Germany's opposition groups have refused to support a New Forum threat to quit the round-table talks with the Government if plans to re-establish a security service are not cancelled.

They are concerned that they are losing public support by opting out of talks with the Government.

New Forum's ultimatum follows the suspension on Monday of the talks after the Government failed to satisfy the opposition that it was serious about dissolving the country's former security service, the Office of National Security. At least 60,000 of the former 85,000 employees of the office are still at their posts.

Frau Ingrid Koppe, a New Forum spokesman, said the Government was clearly acting against the wishes of the majority of opposition groups in the country if it went ahead with its proposed formation of an agency for the protection of the constitution before the May elections.

The Government insists that such an organization is necessary to tackle the threat of neo-Nazism in the country.

Herr Konrad Weiss, of Democracy Now, said it was the time the opposition ceased threatening and was seen to be constructive as the election campaign gets under way.

All of the main opposition groups agreed to hold a demonstration tomorrow when the East German Parliament meets to discuss future security policy in view of the perceived increase in neo-Nazi activity.

The opposition is also demanding greater access to the media, which is still dominated by the communist party and a share in the party's facilities in the run-up to the May elections.

The Monday evening demonstration in Leipzig, attended by 150,000 people, showed a fresh hostility towards the Socialist Unity (communist) Party with many demonstrators carrying banners accusing it of exaggerating the threat from the right to

enhance its own electoral chances.

Meanwhile, East Germany has publicly rehabilitated its national anthem, "A Rhythm from Ruins", after 18 years of suppressing the lyrics and allowing only the tune to be played in public.

The cause of the ban was the pro-reunification line "Deutschland einig Vaterland" — Germany one fatherland — now chanted by demonstrators across the country at pro-unity marches.

East German newspapers and television have publicized the lyrics, unknown to most young East Germans, and *Neues Deutschland*, the communist party daily, said the decision of Herr Erich

Bonn — Fran Johanna Topfer, a disgraced senior official of an East German trade union, who was under investigation for abuse of office, has committed suicide, according to a West German press report (Reuters reports). Fran Topfer was also a member of parliament under former President Honecker.

Honecker, the former leader, to ban the lyrics had contributed to "a loss of identification with the state and country".

● BONN: Berlin's chances of hosting the Olympic Games on both sides of the Wall in 2000 or 2004 were given another important boost yesterday when Hamburg announced that it was withdrawing its candidature (Ian Murray writes). It was the most important West German contender for the expensive honour of staging the Games, but Herr Henning Voss, the Mayor, said yesterday that he was withdrawing and offering to support a joint application by the divided city.

Last weekend the East German National Olympic Committee said it would support the application and West Berlin wants the International Olympic Committee to discuss the idea at its next meeting in September.

US missile cuts talks in Moscow

From Susan Ellicott in Washington and John Best in Ottawa

Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State, will visit Moscow early next month to try to remove obstacles to a US-Soviet treaty cutting long-range nuclear missiles, American government officials announced yesterday.

Mr Baker will hold discussions with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, from February 6-7 and is considering a visit to Czechoslovakia as a sign of US support for democratic reforms in the country. Moscow has not yet announced the dates for the trip or the topic of the talks.

It is possible that Mr Baker will also raise with his Soviet counterpart the differences that have emerged over President Bush's "open skies" proposal, under which both sides would be able to carry out surveillance flights of each other's territory in order to verify the arms reductions agreed on at Geneva summits.

Mr Baker and Mr Shevardnadze will both be going to Ottawa later in February to attend a special "open skies" conference for Nato and Warsaw Pact foreign ministers.

Yesterday, a Canadian of-

ficial said the West firmly opposed a Soviet demand that a common fleet of surveillance aircraft should be employed by the two sides to fly over one another's territory, and that intelligence data gathered in the flights be shared.

He also rejected a Soviet demand that American bases all over the world be brought within the embrace of the plan. Under President Bush's proposals, approved by Nato,

only the territories of the two military alliances would be covered.

"We cannot negotiate overflights of the Philippines, for instance, and we will have to tell the Soviets that," the official said.

Mr Igor Liakin-Frolov, councillor of the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa, said in a newspaper interview yesterday that the differences over standardized equipment and offshore bases could im-

pair the chances of the open skies plan.

However, Canadian officials rejected suggestions that the differences could scuttle the plan. "We are extremely optimistic," one official said.

In his talks with Mr Shevardnadze in Moscow next month, Mr Baker will try to resolve the principle stumbling blocks in the negotiations on long range missiles so that a treaty can be ready for signing in the summer.

The superpowers, who have been discussing strategic arms cuts since 1985 in Geneva, have agreed to cut long-range missile arsenals by one-half to 6,000 warheads each over seven years.

There is an important difference over the rules for counting air-launched missiles, however.

Moscow has also proposed limits of 400 nuclear and 600 conventional sea-launched cruise missiles. Washington has said that the two nations should only make non-binding declarations of the numbers of nuclear, sea-launched missiles, which are not included in the 6,000 limit.

many among personnel cutbacks. Under Nato proposals, only American and Soviet troop levels are to be reduced — to 270,000 on each side.

Diplomatic sources said it was possible that, if the Soviet Union agreed to the unilateral withdrawal of its 70,000 troops by December, it might try to insist on proportional cuts by Britain and France. This would be resisted, the sources said. The demand will be discussed with Moscow next week.

Poison umbrella murder affair

Markov widow seeks Bulgaria inquiry

By Michael Knipe
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mrs Annabel Markov, the widow of Georgi Markov, the Bulgarian émigré who was killed by a poisoned pellet in London's most notorious political assassination 12 years ago, has flown to Sofia in the hope of persuading Bulgaria's new rulers to investigate his murder.

She said yesterday that she had been heartened by news from Bulgaria that her husband had been rehabilitated and that his writings could now be sold in Bulgaria. She had, she said, decided to fly to Bulgaria in an attempt to discover the details of his murder.

Markov, a celebrated Bulgarian writer and broadcaster, died after a man jabbed him with an umbrella tip on Waterloo Bridge.

A post mortem examination revealed a 2 mm puncture in his right thigh and forensic scientists, with the help of scientists from the Government's chemical defence establishment at Porton Down, discovered that a 1.52 mm-wide pinhead pellet



Georgi Markov, who was assassinated with a poison pellet, and his wife, Annabel, who is seeking a Sofia investigation.

recovered from his body had contained a dose of 0.2 of a milligram of ricin, a poison twice as powerful as cobra venom.

Markov had been a protégé of Mr Todor Zhivkov, Bulgaria's veteran Communist leader ousted last month, but had become sickened by the corruption and defected in 1969.

After settling in London, he began broadcasting a weekly cultural programme for the BBC's Bulgarian Service and a series of weekly programmes

assassin on the orders of the Bulgarian Politburo. "I think that this really has to be cleared up before we can see a new Bulgaria because it is a stain on its reputation," Mrs Markov said in an interview with BBC television.

"It was one of the worst crimes of the Cold War. If ever there was a moment when the truth could come out about this, it is now."

A Foreign Office spokesman said he now expected the Bulgarian authorities to be more open about the affair. "There have been noises coming out of the Bulgarian Embassy here that they appreciate this was not exactly a commendable way to carry on so we hope they will afford her some kind of assistance," the spokesman said. "We think the new atmosphere in Bulgaria will help to ensure that Mrs Markov's mission bears fruit."

Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, a personal friend of the Markovs, last month called on the Bulgarian authorities to open up the books on the case.

Bush calls off drug 'blockade' after Colombian outcry

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

The Bush Administration has postponed and played down plans to position an anti-drugs naval task force off the Colombian coast because of the furious reaction in Colombia.

The aircraft-carrier USS John F. Kennedy and the nuclear-powered cruiser USS Virginia left for the southern Caribbean last Thursday night but are now engaged in what the Pentagon describes as routine training exercises off Florida.

The State Department has disputed media reports that the objective of the aircraft-carrier group was to mount a "blockade" of Colombia to prevent drugs from reaching the US by air or sea. The aim was simply to monitor air and sea traffic in the region and, without use of force, alert the authorities to suspected drug smugglers, a spokeswoman said.

"We are considering the use of naval assets but no decisions have been made," she said, adding "Anything that is done - if anything is done - will be done in full consultation and co-ordination with any other Government."

The row with Colombia is highly embarrassing for the US, which has been extremely supportive of President Barco's war against the cocaine cartels but now appears to have overstepped the mark. Administration officials privately admit to a public relations blunder.

Early leaks the US plan used the term "blockade" and provoked an instant backlash in Colombia, where latent resistance to displays of US military force had already been increased by the US

invasion of Panama. Colombian authorities last week refused to meet an American team sent to explain the plan, and the Administration in Washington postponed a formal announcement about it.

President Barco, facing a re-election battle in May, said on Sunday that his Government had not authorized and "will not participate" in any joint operations with the US Navy. The plan was denounced by the media and opposition parties.

One US administration official was quoted here yesterday as suggesting the plan might have to be shelved for some time. "It isn't smart to deploy military assets without consulting. We need to let some time pass," he said.

Senator John Kerry, Democratic chairman of the Senate narcotics and terrorism subcommittee, said a US naval surveillance role was not "inappropriate" but "clearly the Administration made a mistake in moving unilaterally and I think also the timing, post-Panama, was difficult."

In a further sign of Latin American displeasure, the Organization of American States voted 16-0 on Monday night to condemn the recent search by American soldiers of the Nicaraguan ambassador's residence in Panama City.

Six nations abstained, including the US, whose delegate said the incident was an honest mistake and accused the Nicaraguans of inflating its importance.

● **BOGOTÁ:** The announcement in Washington yesterday that the US was postponing naval manoeuvres aimed at countering cocaine smuggling was welcomed in Latin Amer-

ica, where fears had mounted of further US military adventurism in the wake of the invasion of Panama (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

The news was considered likely to end strong rumours of an imminent resignation by Señor Julio Londoño Parades, Colombia's highly respected Foreign Minister, who denounced the process. He has received strong support from the foreign ministers of Ecuador and Peru.

Although Washington had always stressed that the USS John F. Kennedy and several other battleships and cruisers would operate in international waters, the Bush Administration clearly blundered diplomatically in failing to consult fully with Bogotá and the other South American capitals which it regards as allies in the drug war.

Señor Londoño specifically expressed concern that legitimate Colombian shipping might be harassed and possibly boarded by the US armada in international waters.

He said it might be "more worthwhile if efficient air and naval control were to be mounted by the United States over its own coast and territorial frontiers since, despite its great military and technological capacity, it has been unable either to impede the entry of drugs into its territory or to prevent the shipment of arms and chemicals to Colombia and other countries."

He was referring to the trafficking of sophisticated arms, almost exclusively US-made, to Colombia's cocaine racketeers and the supply of key chemicals required in the processing of cocaine.

Noriega bail hearing requested

From Charles Bremner
New York

A federal judge yesterday scheduled a court hearing to consider a sudden request by prosecutors that General Manuel Noriega, the deposed Panamanian leader, be compelled to have a bail hearing, a court spokesman said.

Authorities were expected

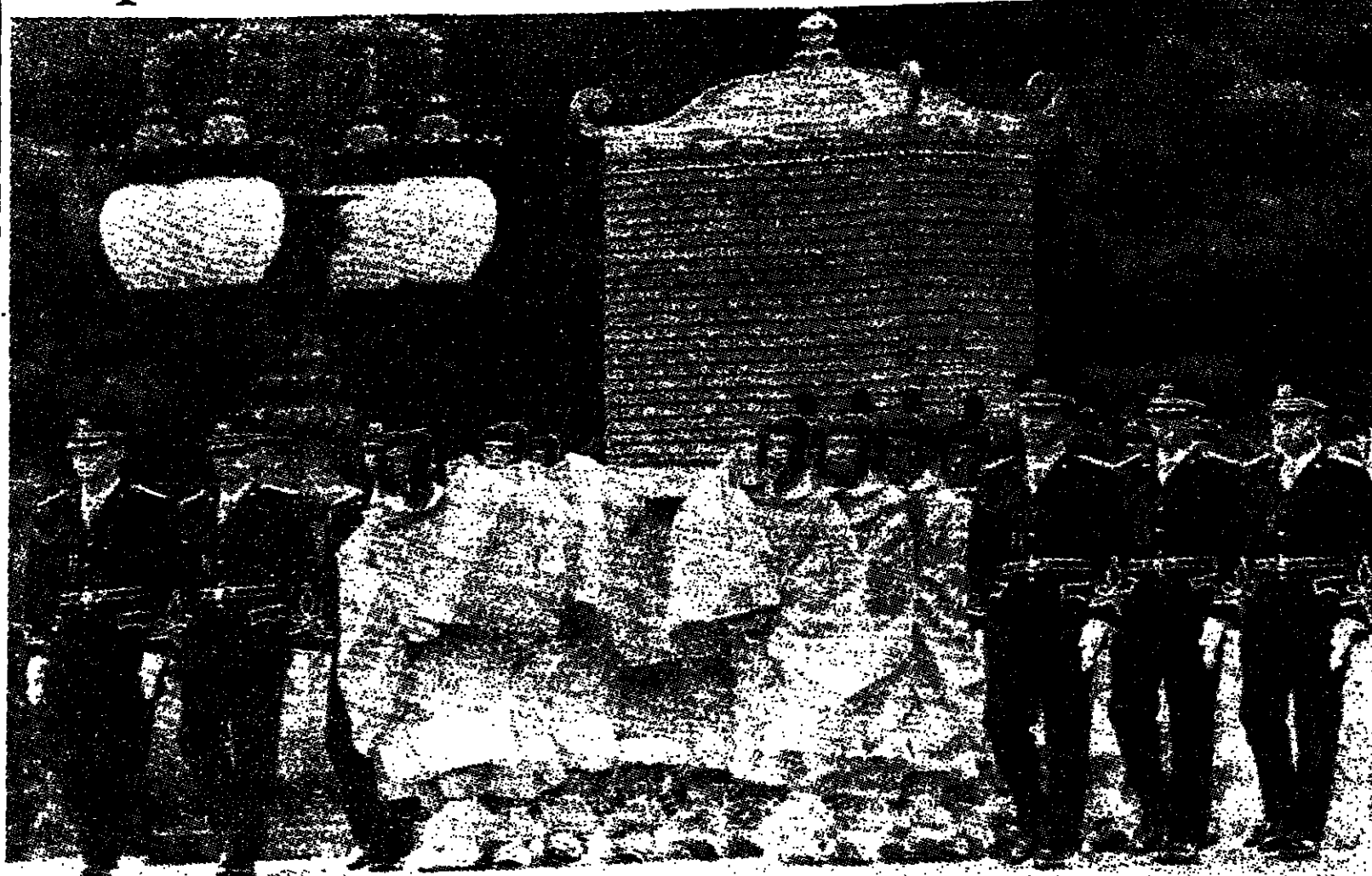
to move General Noriega to a high-security prison in Atlanta last night. His lawyers were reported to be confident that he held secrets which would cause great discomfort to the Bush Administration.

The move was aimed at preventing any escape attempts or any possible bid on the life of the general.

Neither the defence, nor the prosecution are ready to open the long legal battle that is expected to culminate in the dictator's trial probably late this year.

But Judge William Hoelveler must rule soon on a claim that the US courts have no jurisdiction to try a foreign leader seized "illegally".

Imperial Sanctuary rest for Hirohito spirit



Final journey: Imperial Palace Guardsmen escort the shrine, carried by 16 palace employees, taking the spirit of the late Emperor Hirohito from a palace chamber to the Imperial Sanctuary in Tokyo yesterday. The transference ceremony was part of the formal rites marking the first anniversary of his death.

Pretoria radio backs Mandela release

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg

South African state-controlled radio has gone out of its way to prepare people for the imminent release from prison of Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress leader.

This comes after Mrs Winnie Mandela's statement on Monday that her husband had told her for the first time to start making arrangements for his release.

In its daily *Comment* programme to be broadcast today, the South African Broadcasting Corporation said: "South Africa has moved beyond the stage of political leaders merely expressing themselves on the need for negotiated progress."

It added: "The debate has begun to address the nuts and bolts of the process - to identify what needs to be done

on all sides for it to be undertaken successfully. That task requires the active participation of all representative leaders who support peaceful change."

The significance of the broadcast is that the corporation has been consistently used by the Government to project its views.

The broadcast noted that

Mandela expressed his support for peaceful development when he met former President Botha last July, and that the release of seven of his colleagues last September was "something of a trial run".

It said: "The seven were feted in highly emotional mass ceremonies - as Mr Mandela himself undoubtedly would be - but their release passed the

more fundamental test set by the authorities, that it should not be accompanied by an upsurge in unrest and violence."

By identifying himself with the ideals of peaceful development, Mandela had redefined his position "in the context of moves towards negotiated political change."

It is anticipated in many

quarters that President de Klerk will order the release of Mandela, aged 71, to coincide with the opening of Parliament on February 2.

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, who is visiting South Africa and met Mr de Klerk on Monday, said that the South African leader told him openly that he was in a hurry to push ahead with reforms preparing the ground for negotiations with black leaders.

In another significant move, the Government has granted a long-denied visa to the Rev Jesse Jackson, the American black leader and one of its fiercest critics.

Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, said Mr Jackson "will be welcome to come to South Africa and the necessary visa will be issued to him to travel at a mutually convenient time."

Up to 25 strikers killed in clash

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg

Between six and 25 striking black railway workers were killed and scores injured in a 45-minute pitched battle with non-strikers near here yesterday.

Police put the death toll at six with 31 injured, but a spokesman for the Council of

South African Trade Unions said at least 25 people were killed and 60 injured, and said police intervened too late.

The battle erupted when a train carrying about 800 strikers arrived at a station platform in the town of Germiston for a union meeting and was met by about 1,000 non-strikers. The 10-week strike

by the South African Railways and Harbours Union over a pay claim and the refusal of the nationalized South African Transport Services, which runs the country's railways, to recognize it, has already claimed 17 lives.

The body has also dismissed more than 20,000 of the strikers.

Opposition to Khamenei

Rift between Iran ayatollahs widens

By Hazhir Teimourian

More rallies were held yesterday in Tehran, the Iranian capital, and in provincial cities to demonstrate support for Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the nominal spiritual leader of the country, in the face of a declaration by a number of influential religious leaders on the fringes of the Government that he did not merit the position.

Made up predominantly of government employees, the rallies heard veiled attacks on Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, the former designated successor to Ayatollah Khomeini, whom the dissident Muslim clerics have put forward as the rightful candidate for the leadership, and to whom increasing numbers of people look for a challenger.

The rally in the holy city of Qom, the seat of Ayatollah Montazeri, was addressed by Ayatollah Khamenei himself, who described the city as "the centre of Islam and the Islamic revolution".

Other speakers criticized the dissidents as enemies of the revolution and said that the principle of *Velayat-e Faqih*, the guardianship of an Islamic society by a leading theologian, was the foundation of Iran's Islamic state.

State television showed the Qom crowd chanting, "Khamenei is the leader. We are sacrifices to the leader. We are the people of the Prophet. Death to the counter-revolution." On Monday, Ayatollah

Khamenei said he would not tolerate any criticism of government officials as it was sinful.

"The key to the success of the executive, the judiciary and the legislature is their decisive backing by the nation," he said. "Any act or word which weakens the people's trust in these powers and undermines their support in the least is *haram* (forbidden on religious grounds) and treason."

Ayatollah Montazeri, the subject of this attack, has remained silent since the declaration last week in Tehran by Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani, a former Prime Minister under Ayatollah Khomeini, and eight other influential religious leaders, that he, and not Ayatollah Khamenei, was the most deserving theologian to occupy the office of the supreme leadership. His supporters are reported to have held anti-government rallies in Qom, Isfahan and Najafabad, his home town near Isfahan.

The rift results from the general belief that the political promotion of Ayatollah Khamenei, a junior cleric to the rank of ayatollah last August, and his election to the leadership of the state, were contrary to the spirit of the constitution.

It is further deepened by the decline of the economy, in spite of the end of the war with Iraq in 1988.

Wilson mission to mend China fences

From Jonathan Brande
Hong Kong

The Governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson, leaves for Peking today for his first visit to China since last June's military crackdown, in a last ditch attempt to convince the Chinese leadership of the need for greater democracy in the territory and to improve Sino-Hong Kong relations.

On the eve of the visit yesterday, government radio in Hong Kong reported that his advisers on the Executive Council had rejected the draft of a Bill of Rights because it did not contain a provision to protect it from being over-ridden by Peking.

A Government spokesman said the Bill, to protect fundamental freedoms for Hong Kong people after the British colony is handed to China in 1997, had been delayed because members of the council feared that it would not take precedence over the laws drafted by China, which are



Sir David Wilson: Paving way for handover to China, expected to be promulgated later this year.

It also did not have a special "entrenched" status, requiring special procedures for amending or repealing it.

Apart from discussions on the issue of a Bill of Rights, Sir David will also attempt to assess the mood in the Chinese capital in advance of the arrival of Mr Douglas Hurd,

the Foreign Secretary, in Hong Kong at the weekend.

His report will play a crucial role in determining the Foreign Secretary's own policy on the pace of democratic development in the British colony.

Sir David's high-profile visit, designed to shore up confidence in Hong Kong, contrasts with the secret mission to Peking last month by Sir Percy Cradock, the Prime Minister's senior foreign affairs adviser. Sir Percy's aim appears to have been to improve the British Government's relations with China.

Reports that the Governor will be meeting Mr Li Peng, the Chinese Premier, are seen as an indication that China also regards it as more than mere diplomatic routine.

He will also meet Mr Zhou Nan, China's hardline Deputy Foreign Minister, one of two men tipped as most likely to succeed Peking's most senior representative in Hong Kong.

Mr Xu Jiatun, who retires at the end of the month.

The other main contender for the post is Mr Ye Xuanping, the present governor of China's Guangdong province, an economic liberal but more senior in China's diplomatic pecking order than Mr Zhou, and with strong ties to the military.

Sir David's visit comes a week before the committee drawing up the Basic Law, Hong Kong's post-1997 mini-constitution, meets to finalize the political structure that will govern the territory.

Last month, Chinese-appointed drafters, with a built-in majority on the committee, insisted that only 18 seats, or 30 per cent of the legislature, should be directly elected until well into the next century.

Of the models put forward, the most popular call is for 40-50 per cent of the legislature to be directly elected by 1997.

However, these consensus models have been dismissed

by China, which apparently fears that direct elections would give liberal forces too great a say in government.

The Governor will attempt to persuade Chinese leaders that Hong Kong could become unstable if demands for speedy political reform are ignored.

He will also attempt to explain Britain's decision to grant full passports to 225,000 Hong Kong people, in spite of China's blistering attack on the move as a breach of Britain's obligations under the Joint Declaration.

China fears that the package, designed to promote stability in Hong Kong, will have the opposite effect, causing division within the territory and undermining the loyalty to Peking of key Hong Kong figures.

Sir David will also seek Chinese co-operation in stemming the flow of Vietnamese boat people flooding into Hong Kong.

Riots hit Comoros capital

Moroni (Reuters) - Rioting broke out in the capital of the Comoros islands after police fired live bullets over the heads of demonstrators calling for a return to democracy.

The paramilitary gendarmes also used teargas to break up the crowd of several hundred people outside Moroni's main mosque in the protest, which was organized by opposition parties.

The demonstrators dispersed into small groups, which set off for other parts of the town, pillaging government buildings and setting fire to about 10 government vehicles.

Shuttle launch

Washington - The US space shuttle Columbia lifted off in cloudy skies yesterday on a mission to retrieve a satellite before it drifts to earth.

Soldier jailed

Jerusalem (Reuters) - Israel has jailed a soldier for saying on army radio it should leave the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, military sources said.

Storm havoc

New York (AP) - Storms rolled across north-western United States at the weekend, cutting electricity, ripping down trees and derailing a freight train.

Nuclear move

Stockholm (Reuters) - Mr Ingvar Carlsson, the Swedish Prime Minister, has announced a Cabinet reshuffle seen as relaxing the government's policy of phasing out nuclear power.

Coup threat

Manila (Reuters) - President Aquino has warned that a fresh army coup attempt could end in a "nightmarish blood-bath" in the Philippines and urged the country to unite to uphold democracy.

Riots kill 14

Srinagar (Reuters) - The killing of an intelligence policeman yesterday brought to 14 the official death toll in 24 hours of riots against India's rule in Kashmir.

Reptile claim

Sydney (Reuters) - An Australian Aborigine said he had survived a crocodile attack in the Northern Territory by poking the reptile in the eyes as it dragged him underwater.



Mrs Hamada: Tired of scandals in ruling Liberal Democrats.

From Joe Joseph
Tokyo

In a country where parliamentary seats are handed down from father to son like family silver and polite women know their place, the wife of a Japanese politician is testing the Government's commitment to equality by standing against her husband's party in the general elections expected next month.

When Mr Takujiro Hamada, who has represented the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in the lower house for a decade, heard of his wife's decision he simply growled: "What a headache!"

Mrs Makiko Hamada, aged 47, says she is fed up with the scandal-plagued Liberal Democrats who, she says, "will end up as a group of yakuza (gangsters) if things carry

on the way they are now". She says she is tired of mouthing stuffy Liberal Democrats' policies while campaigning for her husband when she has smarter ideas of her own.

Voters are also fed up. When her husband refused her pleas to quit the party, Mrs Hamada decided to run as an independent in a neighbouring constituency just north of Tokyo against one of his closest party colleagues.

The move has sent party leaders into a controlled fury. They are torn between telling Mr Hamada to take his wife in hand and their pledges to woo Japan's recently politicized female electorate.

The Government blames its humiliation in upper house elections last July on a heavy voting turn-out by women enraged by sex scandals, by the Recruit bribes

affair and by the introduction of a hated sales tax.

With an election for the more important lower house expected next month, the Government is

Tokyo (Reuters) - Mr Noboru Takeshita, the former Prime Minister, who stepped down last April, forecast yesterday that general elections would be held in Japan on February 18, Kyodo News Service reported. The date has been mentioned frequently in the media, but Mr Takeshita, the Prime Minister, has not yet made an announcement.

anxious not to rekindle women's wrath. But it also feels that it is odd for a woman who has spent the past 10 years loyally campaigning in her husband's constituency to turn

against him now. However, Mrs Hamada says: "What I am doing, I am doing for my husband and for the LDP. In the long run, changing the LDP will benefit him, as the LDP right now is not able to make the best use of his talent. He is a very good politician and I will vote for him in his constituency. He is giving me mental support."

"We got to know each other when we were students, and we know each other's characters very well. Our relationship is like an alliance, so there is no danger of a divorce."

Mrs Hamada, a literature graduate of the prestigious Tokyo University, a former airline hostess and now president of her own trading company, says that, while both she and her husband agree on the need for a new breed of

conservative politics in Japan, she believes that a new party is required while her husband favours changing the Liberal Democrats from the inside.

She says her husband cannot act boldly "because he is a man and has heavy responsibilities" whereas "women are freer and more flexible. It has always been women who have broken stalemates and changed history. I was shocked to learn that there are no female conservative MPs in the lower house."

"I'm not in this race to hurt my husband - or to save him. I want to help develop better politics in this country. The present LDP thrives on back-door deals for money and special interests, and such dealings are crucial factors in winning in the general election."

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late Emperor Hirohito from attending the first anniversary of his death.

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quarters that President Nixon will order the release of the prisoners by March 21, aged 70, to mark the opening of the new year on February 2.

Dr. David Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, is visiting South Africa as Vice-Chairman of the Monday Club, the South African anti-apartheid group that has been set up to push ahead

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Riots hit Comoros capital

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Shuttle launch
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Soldier jailed

Storm havoc

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Coup threat

Manila (Reuters) - The Manila stock market closed higher on Tuesday, with the Philippine Stock Exchange Index rising 1.14 points to 1,111.14.

Riots kill 14

Reptile claim



Gruppo Ferruzzi

NEXT GENERATION CHEMISTRY

January 9 1990

House suspended in uproar over MP's allegation

The Commons sitting was suspended for 15 minutes amid scenes of confusion over a government motion giving a committee chairman power to suspend members of that committee if they failed to accept rulings.

The issue stemmed from a decision earlier in the day by Dame Janet Fookes, chairman of the committee considering the National Health Service and Community Care Bill, to suspend the committee's sitting after Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, a Labour member of it, refused to accept her ruling.

Dame Janet reported the incident to the House and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Leader of the Commons, moved the motion giving her power to suspend any member of that committee at its further sittings.

The move was greeted with uproar on the Labour benches and a stream of points of order.

After 45 minutes of heated argument and allegations by Mr Campbell-Savours about a minister's links with a public relations company, the Speaker suspended the sitting to allow behind-the-scenes talks. When the sitting was resumed, Sir Geoffrey withdrew the motion.

Dame Janet said that as chairman of the standing committee she had to report that the committee debate on the NHS Bill had had to be adjourned.

Despite repeated requests from the chair, Mr Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab) had persisted in raising a matter which she had ruled was not a matter for her.

"When it became crystal clear that the matter was not going to be resolved in any way, I accepted a motion for the adjournment of the committee. This was passed without a division."

Sir Geoffrey said the House had to take seriously the matter raised by a distinguished and experienced chairman. It was clear, from what she had told the House, that the conduct she had reported made impossible the continued work of the standing committee.

He moved that Dame Janet, during the sitting of the Bill, should have power to direct that a member who disregarded the authority of the chair, or persistently and wilfully obstructed the business of the committee, should withdraw immediately from the committee for the remainder of the sitting.

Mr Campbell-Savours said that he had raised the matter of a company called Michael Forsyth Ltd, a lobbying company, a public relations company trading in the name of a minister of the Crown (Mr Michael Forsyth is Under Secretary of State, Scottish Office).

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Dr John Cunningham, shadow Leader of the House, asked why it was necessary to move the motion immediately. There should be a cooling-off period (Conservative laughter) and discussions between the front benches before taking an unprecedented step of this nature.

Mr Nicholas Bennett (Pembroke, C), a member of the standing committee, said that it had become clear that Mr Campbell-Savours intended to disrupt the work of the committee.

It was not a precedent because it had happened previously during discussion of Scottish legislation.

Mr Campbell-Savours said that he wanted to make clear to the chairman of the committee that it was not his intention to disrupt proceedings in future.

However, if Sir Geoffrey had come to him the motion need not have been tabled (Conservative protests).

One of the government whips was kind enough to do that and came to see him in the tea room, and he would have disclosed his intentions to Sir Geoffrey.

The motion had been tabled because Tory MPs did not want the issue that he had raised at committee aired before the public.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said that it was important that the House knew from Mr Campbell-Savours, or others, exactly what took place. They could not properly decide the issue unless Mr Campbell-Savours was allowed to reveal what happened.

Mr Edward Rowlands (Mortimer, Lab) said that it would be sensible to pause and read the Hansard report of the committee before they debated the motion.

Mr Jeremy Hayes (Harlow, C), a member of the committee, said that the issue was not what was discussed but the behaviour of Mr Campbell-Savours, who had disrupted the committee.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said that there was a need for reflection on the matter (Conservative protests). They must uphold the tradition of obedience to the ruling of the chair.

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The minister's secretary was Gisela Hayes, wife of the man who bought half the company from Mr Forsyth. There was a direct link between his secretary in the House, who saw mail from MPs when they wrote to Mr Forsyth there.

"She has access to this mail," said the minister.

Though the minister denied it, Mr Forsyth had an informal agreement whereby if he was asked, or lost his job, (interruptions drowned out the rest of Mr Campbell-Savours' remarks).

After further points the Speaker said that it was difficult to come to a decision until the background of the matter was known.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, said that he had moved the adjournment of the committee this morning after Mr Campbell-Savours refused to sit down when asked, when he would not desist from making a speech when ruled out of order and had barracked rulings from the chair.

Sir Geoffrey said that the issue was a matter of order and the need to uphold the rulings of the chair.

He had attempted to find a solution through the usual channels, but, in the absence of such an undertaking and in view of the fact that the committee would resume at 4.30pm, he had felt it right to move the motion.

Mr Campbell-Savours said that Michael Forsyth Ltd was trading in the name of a minister of the Crown. Mr Forsyth had made an agreement with the new directors...

The Speaker said that if Mr Campbell-Savours was alleging that something irregular had occurred, he should be dealt with as a matter of privilege or, alternatively, if it were a question of interest outside Parliament, then the Select Committee on Members' Interests, of which Mr Campbell-Savours was a member, would be the right body.

Mr Campbell-Savours said that this was not a matter of privilege nor was it a matter for the Select Committee on Members' Interests since the rules governing the conduct of ministers' private affairs were set out by the Prime Minister and the select committee did not have jurisdiction.

After further interruptions, Mr Campbell-Savours said that he had asked the minister to assure the committee that he would not re-acquire his interest - and nor would his wife - in Michael Forsyth Ltd.

People in the industry believed and he had been reliably told - that Mr Forsyth had an agreement to re-acquire those shares if he lost his job as a minister or ceased to be an MP.

The Speaker: These are allegations he cannot sustain. I have heard enough of the background to this case.

Mr Michael Foot (Blaenau Gwent, Lab) said that this was a debatable motion, although that had not been immediately evident to Sir Geoffrey when he had moved it.

The authority of the chair could not be upheld by a motion moved in this form which the House as a whole had not had the chance to consider.

Sir Geoffrey had a second opportunity. "The Leader of the House shakes his head before he has even heard what I said. It might be the safest way in the Cabinet. If they shake their heads, they knock them off" (loud laughter).

Sir Geoffrey must withdraw the motion, giving all MPs the chance to consider it. That was the best way for him to go about upholding the chair.

If he proceeded with trying to rush through this motion, he would create still further confusion. If he did not withdraw, this was a debatable motion and all MPs would exercise their right of debate.

Mr Robin Cook, Opposition spokesman on health, said that he had been in front of them the verbatim record.

They were also in the particularly difficult situation that the committee recommended at 4.30pm "at which point all those MPs who are aware of what happened this morning will vanish from the chamber."

In this situation, surely it must be self-evident that this debate be deferred.

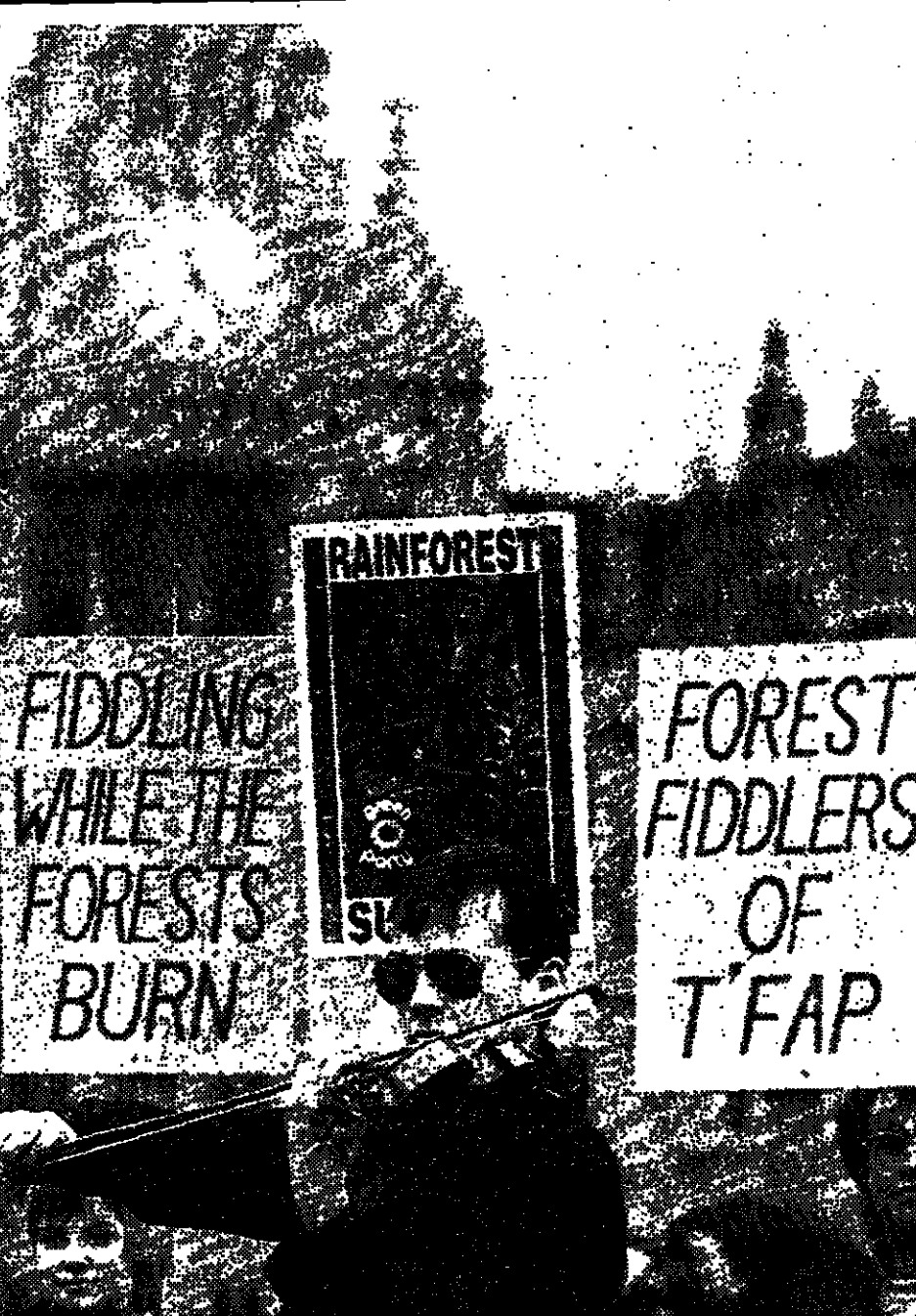
The Speaker then suspended the sitting.

When the sitting resumed, Dr Cunningham said that he had discussed the situation with Sir Geoffrey, and with Mr Campbell-Savours who had given him a new assurance that he would not disrupt the committee.

Sir Geoffrey said that the undertaking now given by Dr Cunningham, which was an affirmation of that given by Mr Campbell-Savours, was not available during an earlier stage. If it had been, the question of moving the motion would have been different.

The allegations had been firmly rebutted by Mr Forsyth.

PARLIAMENT



Gustav Clarkson using his musical talent yesterday at a demonstration in Westminster during which environmental campaigners pressed the Government to reverse its decision to give £100 million to the International Tropical Forestry Action Plan (ITFAP). The plan, backed by the Prime Minister at the UN last November and intended to save the rain forests, was a disaster, the protesters said, which would leave "ecological Disneyland".

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Thatcher asked to praise ambulance staff

The ambulance dispute was almost immediately raised in the first session of Prime Minister's questions since the Christmas break.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, asked Mrs Thatcher to join him in paying tribute to the skill and dedication of the ambulance workers who had worked at the scene of the multiple crash on the M25 last night.

Did she agree that it was inaccurate and insulting for those people to be described as merely professional drivers?

Mrs Thatcher said that she had always done, as the ambulance workers, many of whom were still working full time and providing emergency and accident cover, a number of those at the scene had been on normal duty and emergency cover in the usual way.

It was the Government's wish to increase the number of ambulance staff with paramedical qualifications and for that reason the pay offer to ambulance workers varied between 9 per cent and 16.3 per cent, being slanted towards those with paramedical qualifications.

Mr Kinnock asked Mrs Thatcher to answer the essential part of the question. Did she agree that to describe the people who were at the scene of the crash as merely professional drivers was both inaccurate and insulting?

Mrs Thatcher said that she had gladly paid tribute to ambulance staff (Labour MPs: Answer). The Government wanted a higher proportion of ambulance staff to have paramedical qualifications and to be able to give medical treatment at the scene of accidents and for that purpose it had slanted the offer to pay up to 16.3 per cent in

London to those with the requisite paramedical qualifications.

Sir Anthony Gwynne (South West Cambridgeshire, C) who confirmed that the fact that the Secretary of State for Health (Mr Kenneth Clarke) is taking commands the wholehearted support of the Government (cheers and laughter).

Mrs Thatcher: I gladly confirm that.

The Prime Minister rejected at question time a suggestion that she was indifferent to the concerns of distinguished religious and professional groups, saying that there was not enough time for her to see everyone who wanted to meet her.

Mr Peter Archer (Wokingham, Lab) said that Mrs Thatcher had flatly refused to meet two successive presidents of the Methodist Conference who had asked to see her on the issue of the conference.

Was the deep concern of Methodists a matter of such indifference to her as the concerns of other churches, the Royal College of Nursing, the British Medical Association, the Royal Society, the Bar Council, and the Committee of University Vice-Chancellors?

Mrs Thatcher said that she was flattered that everyone wanted to come and see her but there was not enough time for that to take place.

The president had written to her and she had replied fully.

She had pointed out that, despite his complaints, spending on social security had risen and the disabled was rising more than under Labour. This Government had well and truly discharged its duty on social security towards the people of this country.

The Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Bill was described as the single most important legislative measure affecting Scotland by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, when he moved second reading of the Bill in the Commons.

That description was not only his, he said, but that of the Scottish Trade Union Congress.

Of 420 responses to the Government's White Paper, 403 did not depart from its central recommendations and only 17 had disagreed with the basic principle, proposing the integration of the Training Commission with the Scottish Development Agency and the creation of a new body, Scottish Enterprise.

"It is disappointing, but not surprising, that among that lonely group of 17 was to be found the Opposition, the Labour Party."

The Opposition had support from no other important organization in Scotland; they stood in lonely isolation opposed to the Bill.

The member for Garscadden (Mr Donald Dewar, Chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland) sits skulking in his tent supported by no other bodies of significance in Scotland.

The Scottish TUC had described the Bill as "the most significant institutional reform within the field of training and economic development to be suggested since the establishment of the Manpower Services Commission in 1974 and the Scottish Development Agency in 1975".

There were three important aspects to the Bill, any one of which would be of profound importance to the Scottish economy.

First was the creation of Scottish Enterprise which would be a powerful body with considerable resources.

Then there was the transfer of responsibility for training in Scotland from the Department of Employment to the Scottish Office.

Third, many of the respon-

Scottish TUC with me, says Rifkind

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abilities carried by the Scottish Development Agency or the Training Commission would be delivered in future by new private-sector-led enterprise companies in each of the various regions of Scotland in the Highlands and the Highlands and Islands.

Integration of training and the development agency in Scottish Enterprise was the central thrust of the Bill. It would be simpler if those seeking business support and training could go to one single body to see what was available.

It was wrong to think of training as other than another form of investment. It was, in fact, a form of investment and, therefore, similar to the work that the development agency and the Highlands and Islands Development Board had been doing.

The training needs of different parts of Scotland differed from one another. The Government was therefore devolving responsibility for such training to the local communities. That was a profound change and had been widely welcomed by both sides of industry in Scotland. Only the Labour Party seemed to oppose it.

There were five new towns in Scotland and the Bill was necessary to bring the new-town programme to its completion. It provided for individual wind-up orders to be made.

The central theme was the devolution or decentralization of responsibility - from Sheffield to Edinburgh, from the Department of Employment to the Scottish Office and from the centre of Scotland to the regions and local communities.

He described as "one of the great ironies" the opposition of the Labour Party, which had been drifting on again and again about its belief in devolution.

Mr Donald Dewar, Chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, moved, as an amendment, that a second reading should not be given to the Bill "because it fails to provide the right framework for rebuilding the Scottish economy".

Laser gun for Navy defended

A stout defence of the laser guns fitted to Royal Navy Type 22 frigates was put up by Mr Alan Clark, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, during Commons questions.

He was scornful of what he called "off-the-cuff" remarks made about the weapons by Mr Martin O'Neill, Opposition spokesman on defence.

Mr O'Neill asked against whom the laser guns would be deployed and why had these weapons been shrouded in secrecy for so long?

Mr Clark said it was a disgrace to say that the weapon was "a very dangerous means of protecting ourselves". It was better to have a system which "guarded against trigger happiness" and the sort of experience of the United States when they had shot down an airliner by mistake. The laser was purely defensive.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign Office, Aviation and Maritime Security Bill, second reading. Associated British Ports Bill, third reading.

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Parliament today

Socialism has failed utterly, MPs told

Events in Eastern Europe confirm that socialism had utterly failed, Mrs Thatcher said, to Conservative cheers, during Prime Minister's questions.

She said that Britain would do all it could to assist in the development of genuine democracy and a free-market economy for eastern Europeans, having already given extensive help to Poland and Hungary, in concert with other countries in the European Community.

Mr Robert Dunn (Dartford, C) said that the first duty of the Government was to provide the means to defend its people. It would be foolish in the extreme to change Britain's defence policy at this moment in order to take account of short-term changes which appear to be happening in the Soviet Bloc.

Mrs Thatcher said that Britain's defence policy was the Nato defence policy and could only be changed by Nato. The matter would be considered when the agreement on conventional arms reductions had been completed.

Mr Tim Boswell (Daventry, C) in the first question time of the decade, will she take the opportunity of commenting on the staggering recent events in Eastern Europe, and will she also take an early opportunity to go and tell them about the opportunities based on democracy and free enterprise?

Mrs Thatcher said that the events "confirm that socialism has utterly failed (Conservative cheers) and has been utterly rejected by the people of Eastern Europe, who have much greater freedom than they have ever known before."

Earlier, the rapidly changing situation in Eastern Europe was the dominant theme during defence questions.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, said that the situation was unstable and potentially dangerous. He rejected Labour demands for cuts in defence spending and attacked the "siren voices" which, he said, suggested that all the problems in Eastern Europe were over.

He rebuffed calls from Labour backbenchers for a change in Britain's defence policy in the wake of the recent changes in East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

He told MPs that since they last met for defence questions all the events in Romania and the threat by President Mikhail Gorbachev to resign had taken place.

"While everybody of good will wishes a successful outcome to the present very important and exciting developments, nobody can conceal the fact that the present situation is very unstable and potentially very dangerous as well."

Mr Kenneth Hind (West Lancashire, C) urged him, before moving to any change in defence policy, to consider that the nationalist movements on the fringes of the Soviet Union could destabilize the country and possibly lead to a military takeover.

Mr James Lammont (Oldham Central and Royton, Lab) asked why Britain was still dragging its feet at the CFE talks (on

conventional arms reductions) in Vienna.

It had been prepared to negotiate the upgrading of short-range nuclear weapons in Germany.

Why did this country not take the initiative in seeing that money was saved so that it could be used properly for social purposes here and abroad?

Mr King replied that Britain was playing an active part in the discussions. It hoped that there would be a successful treaty during the course of this year on conventional force reductions in Europe. It wished to achieve greater security with lower force and armament levels.

The possibility was there, but it had to be soundly based. Uncertainty was such that "we must do all we can to advance the cause of peace and maintain the security of

Art trap for an innocent player

Gennady Zalkowitsch, musician, filmmaker and dealer in Islamic treasures, spent a year in jail for a crime he did not commit. The way he was caught up in a tale of intrigue and double-dealing is bound to send shivers through the art world. William Greaves reports



Rich world: Zalkowitsch as collector and (top) conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra



ALAN WELLER/MAYOTTE MAGNUS

London to those with the...
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Thus Zalkowitsch became involved in the world of Islamic art dealing, first as a go-between and then, as his fortunes improved, as a buyer and seller.

Today, as he tries to pick up the pieces of his career after a year in French and British prisons for a crime he did not commit, he admits he should have learnt his lessons much earlier.

"Sheikh Nasser trusted me to take care of his collection of Islamic art objects and I gave him enormous cheques for \$400,000 or \$500,000 at a time."

"Often there was no paperwork of any description to prove that I had a right to offer items for sale."

"These are the kind of casual business practices which are to be found everywhere in the trading of Islamic art objects and which were to become so important in my trial."

On the face of it, the case against Zalkowitsch was rock solid. It began in early 1985, when he decided to give his art dealing "one last push" to provide the remaining finance for an ambitious film project in Cairo. The film location was to prove crucially significant.

Discovering that the Ahuan Gallery in Victoria, London, was getting together an exhibition, "The Unity of Islamic Art", in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, he submitted a number of objects in the hope that they would later be bought. While in Saudi, because of temporary export licence restrictions, the works of art could only be viewed but the organizers hoped that interest in them would be aroused and turned into sales when the exhibition was re-mounted back at the gallery in London on July 4, 1985.

By that time the gallery had on loan four immensely valuable objects submitted by Zalkowitsch — a Kaaba belt (a silver calligraphic panel on velvet that had once covered the Holy Kaaba at Mecca), a 14th-century Arabic translation of *The Politics of Aristotle*, a 17th-century manuscript entitled *Conquests of Medina*, and a 15th-century calligraphic panel, collectively worth \$235,000.

But on the night of July 12 the gallery's alarm sounded, and when Oliver Hoare, director of Ahuan UK, arrived at the scene in the early hours of the following morning, he found 18 items missing, with a collective insurance valuation of nearly \$1 million.

Six of those items — a section of a 13th-century Moroccan Koran, two other Koran fragments, a prayer on the sword of Ali Ibn Abu Talib, an ancient guide to Mecca and Medina, and another Koran in two volumes by the scribe Muhammad Effendi Mazket — were of vital importance.

For one of them, the Moroccan Koran section, was allegedly offered to Hussein Afshar, an art dealer in Kuwait, in December 1985 by Mustassir Barakat, a Jordanian known to the Ahuan Gallery as a previous client.

If that was true, then how had that stolen Koran found its way from an art gallery in Euston Street, London, to Kuwait? From various statements gathered by

the British police and Interpol — and, until Zalkowitsch's trial, never doubted — an astonishing story of international dealing in stolen items began to emerge.

And this is how it ran. From details of the theft, circulated by the gallery, Afshar recognized the Moroccan Koran section as being one of the stolen works and later passed on the information to David Sultzerberger. Hoare's American associate at Ahuan, in response to Sultzerberger's inquiries, Barakat said it was one of five pieces — the other four being the other two Koran fragments, the sword prayer and the guide to Mecca and Medina — that he had acquired in Cairo.

After three meetings between the two men, Barakat told Sultzerberger that he had bought the five items for £10,000 each — together with a sixth piece, the Mazket Koran — from a man called Sheikh Khaled Ahmed Abdelaziz.

Abdelaziz said he had been shown all the pieces by Zalkowitsch in Cairo and had obtained them in exchange for "a manuscript" of comparable value.

Zalkowitsch was arrested in London on July 23, 1986, on suspicion of having handled stolen goods by taking them abroad. He vehemently denied any involvement and was released without charge.

Two months later, after completing a business engagement in Paris, he was again questioned and this time charged. After a week in custody at Wormwood Scrubs, he

his passport showed he had made many visits to Cairo. Indeed, he had arrived in Cairo on July 13, 1985, the day after the London burglary.

During the two and a half weeks of the trial, however, a series of contradictions and omissions in the prosecution evidence gradually emerged.

Why did Sheikh Abdelaziz first say he exchanged the stolen goods for "a manuscript" and refer to the Persian Koran only after it had been listed in a widely circulated Christie's catalogue? And why did a sheikh refer to a Koran as a "manuscript" when this would be comparable to a Catholic priest referring to the Bible as "a book"?

Points of interest and anomalies also emerged during the case. The gallery's own books, when ordered to be produced by the judge in many cases revealed major differences between cost prices and insurance valuations, something that Hoare said was regular practice in the art world. Three examples were items bought for \$708, \$750, and \$750 and valued for insurance purposes at \$10,000 each.

For Zalkowitsch to have arrived in Cairo on July 13, the entry date revealed in his passport, the only aircraft he could have caught would have left Heathrow the evening before. Yet it was only at the very end of the trial that it was acknowledged that he would have been airborne several hours before the burglary was committed.

And why would the goods have ever been taken to Cairo in the first place when the smuggling of Islamic art is regarded by the Egyptian government as a crime of such seriousness that it carries automatic sentences of 15 years' imprisonment? And how were they smuggled through an airport whose security officials are renowned for the manner in which they unflinchingly examine all incoming suitcases for evidence of such traffic?

By this stage there was a strong suggestion that Cairo had entered the story only because Barakat, alarmed that his possession of

stolen goods had come into the open, badly needed a supplier to "take the rap". Once Zalkowitsch had been selected, then Egypt — which Zalkowitsch had been visiting so frequently in connection with his latest film project — became the obvious location for the "handover".

One factor was vital to the whole construction, however. If Zalkowitsch maintained he had had no dealings with Abdelaziz, how then had he acquired the Safavid Koran that was undoubtedly in his possession at the time of the Christie's sale?

Zalkowitsch's luck had turned. Remarkably, he had bought the critical Koran from a man called Mohammed Sabbah in Paris in the first few weeks of 1984 in front of two witnesses, Brigitte van Meerhaeghe, a French actress, and her assistant. Furthermore, an Englishman with whom Zalkowitsch had stayed was able to swear he had not only seen it in London in the first half of 1984 but had actually looked after it in his house on Zalkowitsch's behalf during those months. And both the Englishman and van Meerhaeghe came forward to testify at the trial.

So, at the last hurdle, the prosecution case had collapsed. After a trial lasting two and a half weeks, the jury returned a unanimous not guilty verdict on all counts.

But just how close had Zalkowitsch come to falling victim of a miscarriage of justice? His defence lawyer, Brian Rose-Smith, believes that even a specialized police art squad probably would have prosecuted. "The danger in cases such as this is to accept the evidence which appears to fit and to turn a blind eye to anything which doesn't," he says.

And did the stolen items ever leave Britain? "Personally, I think they did," Rose-Smith says. "But whether they ever entered Egypt is quite another matter."

Whatever the unsolved mysteries, the end of the affair is on public record. Soon after 2pm on September 19, 1989, Zalkowitsch walked out of Southwark Crown Court No 15 a free man — more than two years after his first arrest.

From vicious to Vicious

It is odd that a recent correspondent to *The Times* felt the need to boast that he had been playing croquet on New Year's Day. I played a couple of games on Boxing Day, and would have played a couple more on the day after Boxing Day had my younger brothers not viciously beaten me the day before.

"Croquet is the ideal Christmas game: almost as stationary as Monopoly and twice as nasty. With garden flares, a good jersey and a little restraint when requesting the black ball, it can even be played at dead of night, though this multiplies the opportunities for cheating. Indeed, I had planned to be playing it at the stroke of midnight on December 31, and would have done so had my attention not been diverted by the surprise entrance of Miss Kylie Minogue on Clive James's television show."

"Croquet is a game that tends to be played by people who, like myself, dread most other games. It manages to fall outside the prescribed categories of Team Games, Games Involving Mud, Games Demanding a Knowledge of Longest Rivers, Games Colonized by Lionel Blair, Games for Long Car Journeys, Games with Instruction Manuals the Length of Penguin Classics and Games Which Promise 'Hilarious Fun for the Young at Heart'."

"Only one other game I know manages to avoid all these grisly categories. As it seems to be virtually unknown, I thought I would let readers of *The Times* in on the secret. So few people know



CRAIG BROWN

about it that, as far as I can tell, it has yet to gain an official title, but I call it the Word Game.

The instructions could not be shorter or simpler. While one person keeps time and the score, the other person must name as many words beginning with a given letter as is possible within the space of one minute. And that's it.

Oh, dear, you will no doubt be muttering to yourself, that sounds hideously boring. But it isn't. As I blurt and bellow the words out at breakneck speed — book, bread, bind, binding, bound, ban, banning, band, business, busy, bee, blank, bank, bar, bartender, barter, bash, bashing, bashes, bashed, blooming, boast, beast — my brain whirrs and bleeps at such an intensity that time itself seems to expand within my head, every tongue-tied pause seeming to last half an hour, every smooth sequence (blank, bank, bar, bartender, barter, bash) carrying with it its own satisfying rhythm and logic, those 60 seconds managing to contain all the drama, misery,

joy, and pressure that are more normally obtainable only over periods of five years or more.

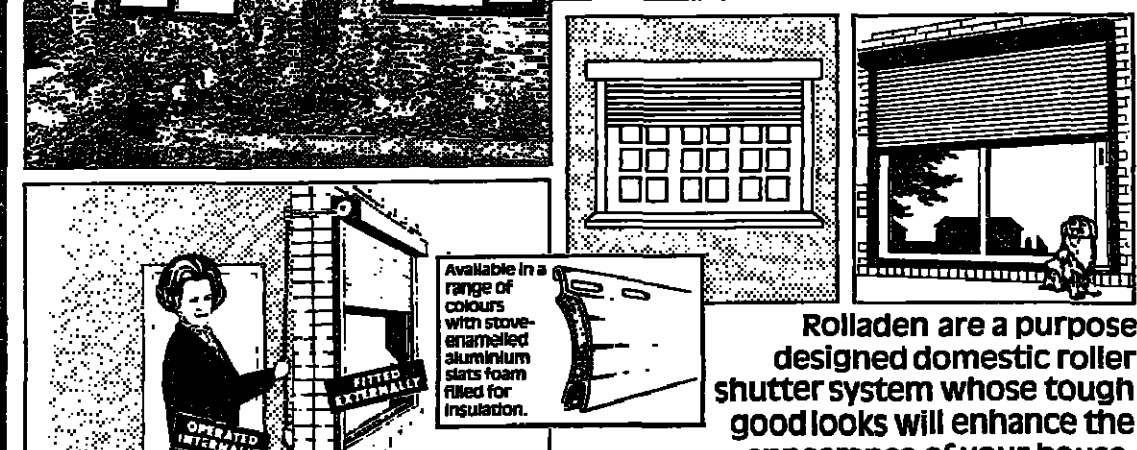
It is also, in a discreet, trouble-free way, a Truth Game. The extremely short time limit allows self-censorship, so that one's preoccupations surface whether one likes it or not. I feel sure that the genuine example given above of my own recent go at the letter "B" (blank-bank-bartender-barrier-bash) amounts to a handy summary of goings-on recognizable to all but the most placid of freelance writers.

For a beginner, a score of 18 words in a minute is commendable, but after you have played the game a few times you should be reaching the lower thirties. Having grasped every opportunity to play the game over the past 10 years, I have just managed to reach 60, though my friend Napier Miles, with whom one session lasted so long that by the end the same letters were coming round for the third time, has achieved 67. The secret is to go for the verbs, and to extract every last drop from each one — for example, bank, banks, banking, banker, banked, bankable, and so on.

Those who would prefer a less abstract version can play the same game but with a given subject instead of a letter, such as Actors with Moustaches or Deposed Dictators. As a purist I prefer the standard version, although I modestly admit to having once attained no fewer than 34 Dead Rock Stars in 60 seconds, a feat aided by the then-recent death of Sid Vicious.

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TIMES DIARY

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Conservative MP Robert Adley was surprised to receive in his post box a Christmas card from a bottle of champagne and a video from the quarrying division of the construction firm, Tarmac. The video went straight into the bin. A bottle of bubbly is a more serious proposition. He gave it to the clerks in the Government Whips' office. But Adley did not leave the matter there. What favour and influence was being sought — and could it have anything to do with Department of Transport contracts to build new roads? He wrote to Tarmac suggesting there must have been some mistake, but that, anyway, he didn't want their gift. Back came a tart reply from Jack Mawdsley, Tarmac's chief executive, saying that "many hundreds" had responded favourably to the presentation and only two, Adley and Labour's Dennis Skinner, had objected. "What a strange alliance," Mawdsley added. Not at all, says Adley. "Dennis Skinner and I entered Parliament on the same day nearly 20 years ago and although we are poles apart politically, it is not the first time we have joined forces in debunking people with inflated views of their own importance." And for future reference, Adley tells me, if anyone wants to buy him, he costs a lot more than a bottle of champagne.

Great parliamentary answers of our time... In a written question on Monday, Labour MP Alan Wynne Williams asked the Chancellor if he would make a statement on interest rates. Back came the reply on John Major's behalf from junior minister Richard Ryder: "The bank base rate is 15 per cent." Very helpful.

Michael Spicer, promoted last week to fill the slot vacated by Michael Howard as a minister very much in demand. Although his name was to be found this week on DoE written parliamentary answers, and he appeared briefly in the Marsham Street office on Monday, he cannot formally take up his new post until next week, nearly a fortnight after the announcement of his appointment. John Wakeham, the Energy Secretary, has decided that Spicer is indispensable in his old job as a junior energy minister, so Spicer was still in Committee Room 11 yesterday seeing the Coal Industry Bill through its committee stage and will be there again tomorrow. Whitehall sources tell me that in their experience Spicer's dual ministerial role is unique.

BARRY FANTONI



'It wasn't half as bad as what Neville said when he learned he'd missed it'

Des Wilson and his fellow campaigners who yesterday launched their Parents Against Tobacco campaign are optimistic that their pleas for tougher action by the Department of Health to keep children away from cigarettes will not fall on deaf ears. The minister responsible for enforcing the regulations which forbid shopkeepers to sell cigarettes to under-16s — a law which, it is claimed, is breached by one in two tobacconists — is Virginia Bottomley. As a backbencher on January 31, 1986, she told the Commons: "For too long children have been able to buy cigarettes. Parents and shopkeepers have not been vigilant. It is a matter not only of legislation but of enforcement." Quite so. And in case Mrs Bottomley has since been bitten by the Government's deregulationist bug, the considerate Wilson has sent her a copy of her words to remind her.

It will not be long, I predict, before Nigel Lawson is fixed up with a top City job. I earn that offers are flying thick and fast. City rumour suggests that Lawson, the merchant bank, is keen to continue the tradition begun by Sir John Nott of having a former cabinet minister as chairman. A second whisper says that BZW, the merchant banking division of Barclays, would like him to succeed its chairman, Sir Martin Jacob, a long-time Lawson friend and adviser, whose contract runs out in June. Meanwhile, there is still no sign that Lawson is ready to produce the book for which the publishers are offering a small fortune, although literary agents hope that the appearance of what threatens to be a no-holds-barred tome from former Downing Street adviser Sir Alan Walters in April may sting the former chancellor into action.

"It may be a little painful at first," said my lovely dentist, Iona, and she began my root canal treatment by sticking a hypodermic needle straight into the roof of my mouth.

Still with me? Good. Breathe deeply, play soothing music. No, I didn't know you could stick needles there either, but then you do discover things at the dentist's, including the capacity to endure little bits of wire being twiddled about up your teeth. Not that one feels anything, of course, except, perhaps, what it's like to have one's mandibles scoured out with a dynamo rod.

"I have all my own teeth," says some plucky pensioner, baring yellow chompers of excessive length and glossiness thanks to a lifetime eating carpet and other British delicacies. Well, good for you, dearie, so have I; though rather too many of them are now

Japanese prime ministers, like Japanese tourists, seem reconciled to their overseas trips becoming whistle-stop tours crammed in between more pressing business at home. The current Japanese prime minister, Toshiki Kaifu, is no exception. He arrives in London tomorrow in the course of an eight-nation, 10-day tour of Western and Eastern Europe; typically, he will be here for less than 24 hours.

For more than a year Japan has been suffering from diplomatic inactivity and, at times, near-paralysis in policy-making. First the prolonged illness and death of Emperor Hirohito, then the debilitating financial and sex scandals which led to unprecedented electoral setbacks for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) have made the Japanese more inward-looking and less self-confident.

After cautiously feeling his way since last August, when he became his country's third prime minister in as many months, Kaifu now wishes to demonstrate Japanese re-engagement in international affairs.

Last September he made the obligatory pilgrimage to Washington to pay his respects to the US president. Now, with the question of West European integration and the disintegration of Eastern Europe at the centre of

Japanese, and world, attention, Europe easily becomes the logical choice for his second overseas trip.

For much of the 1980s the West European countries were seen by the Japanese as incapable of adjusting their economies to the challenges of the high technology era, but over the last couple of years that perception has changed under the impetus of the EC's 1992 single market. The resurgence in European business confidence and activity in the run-up to 1992 has attracted increasing numbers of Japanese traders and, more significantly, investors.

However, while Kaifu may be preaching to the converted when he meets Mrs Thatcher, not all Europeans share her enthusiasm for industrial collaboration with the Japanese, and she, too, endorses the general European dissatisfaction with the persistent trade imbalance with Japan. Kaifu, already beleaguered by US pressure, will find it hard to persuade his European hosts that

Japan really is becoming the "import superpower" he so glibly promised in the early days of his premiership. During his visits to five EC countries, he will lobby against those within the EC who might want to use the 1992 process to settle old scores with Japan.

Kaifu clearly wants to move the focus of his talks with West European leaders towards areas of potential co-operation, such as developmental assistance to the Third World, international environmental protection, and political and strategic consultation — especially relations with the two superpowers following the dramatic change in East-West relations. Kaifu will be treading new ground in going to Poland and Hungary later this week, the first Japanese prime minister to do so.

Japan has always felt rather ambivalent about its role as a member of the Western club, for its American and European partners expect it not only to abide by the rules but to pay the

membership fees. Consequently, there have been frequent calls in recent years for Japan to play a political role in international affairs equivalent to its economic strength. In foreign aid, Japan has responded by gradually eschewing its own commercial imperatives and concentrating more on countries and regions important not just to Japan but to the West as a whole.

The new Japanese aid commitments to Eastern Europe, which Kaifu will formally announce during his visit, need to be seen in those terms too. The Japanese naturally do not feel that East European political and economic stability is of such direct importance to them as to Western Europe and the US, but precisely for that reason it is an interesting test case of how far the Japanese rhetoric of the "indivisibility of Western security" is put into practice. Until the last few months, Japanese interest in Eastern Europe — as opposed to the Soviet Union itself — had been very limited.

Fifteen per cent of total Japanese trade is with the EC, with Eastern Europe, less than 0.5 per cent. Investment has been minimal; a handful of small joint ventures in Hungary, none at all with Poland until two weeks ago. Japanese companies see little profit to be made in the domestic markets of Eastern Europe, though some, with an eye to the developing EC-East European relationship, see some potential for using these countries as a back-door to the post-1992 EC.

If Japanese companies are, for the moment, adopting a wait-and-see attitude, then the onus falls on the Japanese government to take a lead. It will probably do so, but, as has happened so often in the past, one step behind its European and American allies.

Kaifu's visit to Eastern Europe, therefore, has more symbolism than substance. Regrettably, despite a genuine desire within the Japanese Foreign Ministry to deepen the relationship with Europe, his hectic

schedule means that much the same can be said about the West European part of the tour as well. Indeed, with Kaifu and his ruling LDP soon facing a crucial election for the Lower House, the timing and scope of the whole trip suggests that the need to impress the voters back home with an image of international statesmanship is still paramount.

Kaifu's ill-starred predecessor, Souma Uno, visited Europe in July 1989 to attend the Paris summit; he was given the cold shoulder and a few weeks later led his party to its worst-ever results in Upper House elections. By keeping his head down and avoiding trouble, Kaifu has slowly and quietly restored some of the LDP's standing. He must be hoping that his European tour will have a much more positive effect than his predecessor's did on his party's, and his own, political future.

Unfortunately for the West, neither of the most likely election results — a slim majority for either the LDP or for a coalition opposition — will encourage the Japanese speedily to shake off their introversion in the international arena. The author was formerly head of the East Asia Programme at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House.

Roger Boyes reports on the resurgent nationalism threatening East European stability

Old canker eating at new freedom

Bucharest

The collapse of communist rule in Eastern Europe has left a void which nationalism is all too ready to fill. Frontiers are already being challenged, and as a pluralistic political system evolves, so nationalist voices — repressed first under the Nazis and then under Soviet-inspired rule — are becoming louder and more strident.

When, in 1917-1918, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia and Turkey crumbled, there was a scramble to snatch parts of the disintegrating empires and to establish new nation-states. The new order was determined at Versailles by President Woodrow Wilson and the leaders of Britain and France. But in the confusion of shifting frontiers, much depended on military power. Poland's Marshal Pilsudski tried to seize Lithuania and part of the Ukraine to re-establish the old Jagiellonian Empire. Under the 1920 Treaty of Trianon, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia took slices of Hungary. Czechs and Slovaks were brought together in an uncomfortable ménage. Yugoslavia became a federation of southern Slavs constructed around the Kingdom of Serbia.

Most of the post-communist states want to introduce a free market, or some variant of welfare capitalism, but have falling or stagnant industrial output, outdated machinery and low investment ratios. At the same time, they want political pluralism, parliamentary democracy and a free press. That is difficult but, with imagination, it can be done.

The third strand of the 1989

revolutions though is emotional, the quest for national self-determination. It is this, the nationalist element, which will burden the young post-communist governments; the passions are running fierce from Berlin to Bessarabia. The ethnic and national differences which sprang from the debris of the old empires have never been resolved, and now that communism has failed as a colonial system, the newly democratizing countries are reaching back into their past. There is a feeling throughout Eastern Europe that, as accidents of history, many people are living in the wrong place, separated from their spiritual home.

How is post-Ceausescu Romania, for example, to cope with this pressure? At the moment, the Romanian leadership displays a soft glow of tolerance (except towards gypsies, the traditional scapegoat of Eastern Europe), but this will probably not last long.

A pessimistic, but quite probable scenario for Romania in the coming months is that the new authorities will try to slow down the pace of the revolution. The students will grow impatient and take to the streets. The shops, artificially filled with food that should have been exported, will empty again, and the workers will be radicalized. The support of the army will become more ambiguous, and suddenly someone will play the popular nationalist card.

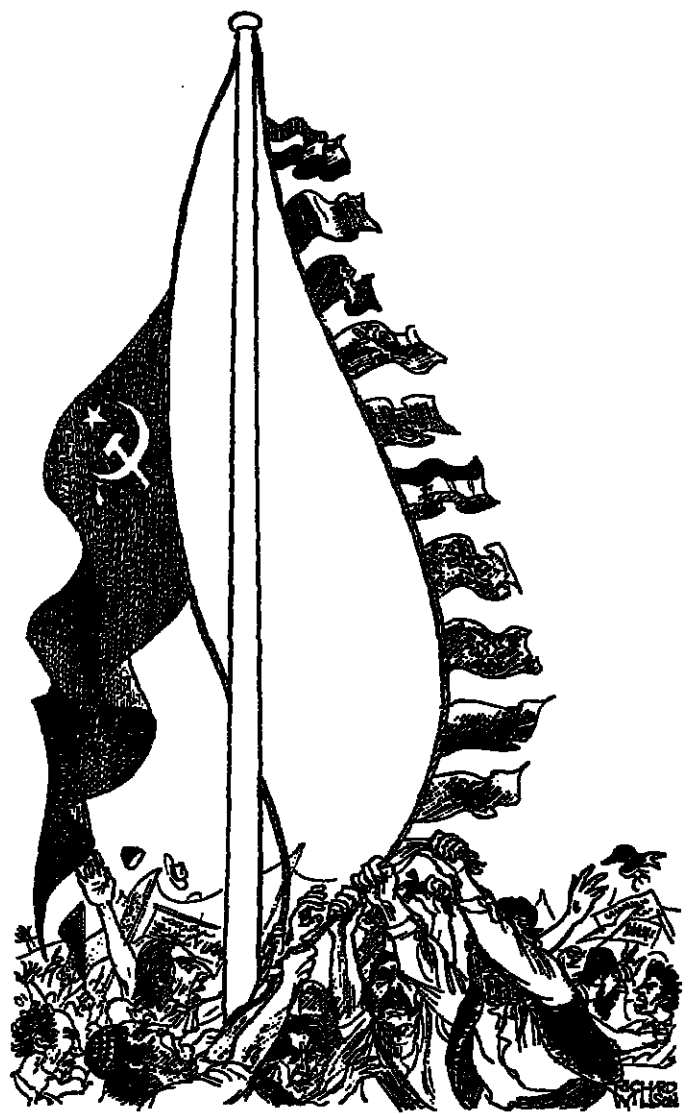
The fledgling democracy has already been encouraging secessionist demands in Soviet Moldavia, which Romania was forced

by Moscow to hand over in 1940. Despite mass deportation of Romanians by Stalin, two-thirds of the people in Moldavia are ethnic Romanians.

During the Ceausescu era, they were understandably reluctant to return to the motherland. Now intellectuals (especially, for some specifically Balkan reason, poets) have constructed a joint action committee linking Bucharest with the Moldavian capital, Kishinev. They are demanding from Gorbachev at least an open Soviet-Romanian border, but if Moscow gives way on this, secessionist movements throughout the western regions of the Soviet Union will press for similar concessions.

Romania's revolutionary government came to power after an uprising in Transylvania, where Ceausescu made crude attempts at Romanizing the Hungarian and German minorities (bringing him to the brink of war with Hungary). The new government says it will guarantee the rights of ethnic Hungarians and Germans still living there. But privileges are being demanded for the ethnic Hungarians. This could lead to trouble now that Romanians and Hungarians are no longer united in their suffering.

In Bulgaria, the Todor Zhivkov regime expelled at short notice several hundred thousand ethnic Turks after failing to "Bulgarize" them. This programme included attempts to force Turks to change their names to ones that sound more Bulgarian and to close mosques and Turkish-language schools. When Zhivkov was toppled, in November, the new leadership pledged to make life easier for the Turkish minority, and about



100,000 returned to Bulgaria. But many party officials in the provinces have not accepted the newly ordained liberalization, and are treating the Turks as badly as ever. Southern Bulgaria is the scene of constant clashes and demonstrations. Even members of the anti-communist opposition are joining in the demonstrations, shouting "Bulgaria for the Bulgarians."

As Bonn takes on a major financial share in the democratic restructuring of Eastern Europe, so the importance of German minorities has become more apparent. For decades, Poland has minimized the significance of the Silesian Germans. Now, as a condition of West German aid to Poland, the ethnic Germans are to be allowed their own newspapers and religious services. A modest enough step, one might think, but many recall

how Hitler manipulated German minorities in Czechoslovakia (in the Sudetenland) and in Poland before the war.

Moreover, there is a widespread fear in Poland that West German companies will start to buy back the land and properties they lost after the Second World War or start new companies. This will give the economy a vital boost, but if they are to escape serious friction, the Germans will have to display considerable political sensitivity. The Polish Communist Party has already tried to stir up the issue: it would like to present itself as the party of true, patriotic Poles at a time when a Solidarity government is internationalizing the economy.

East Germans and Poles are also at loggerheads. In many East German shops signs in Polish have been put up announcing: "Only German customers served." Polish traders, buying in bulk in cheap East German shops, have become scapegoats for the empty shelves. But to the Poles, such treatment smacks of the Nazi era.

Central and Eastern Europe is a crowded place. There are well over 150 million people rubbing shoulders, jabbing each other in the ribs. But much has been learnt during the past 50 years, and national antagonism — between Czechs and Slovaks, for instance — is not as fierce as it was. But the revolutions of 1989, the overwhelming force of "people power" against a fatigued and defunct system, have created multiple and probably irreconcilable demands.

Nobody, least of all the Soviet Union, has found an answer. Blood is spilt, tanks appear on the streets, martyrs are made. In Bucharest a friend who can now talk openly to me gripped my arm and hissed: "We must be careful — here is the tinder of a European war."

Balkan bombast? Perhaps. But there is a dull pulse of anxiety in Eastern Europe.

Labour's half-hearted step to a Bill of Rights

Julia Neuberger finds its proposed charter partisan and full of holes

In his speech to the Fabians at Oxford last Saturday, Roy Hattersley presented what he described as a Charter of Rights to be introduced by a future Labour government. However, he was strongly opposed to the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into British law. This convention, which Britain ratified in 1952, has 14 articles guaranteeing far wider rights and freedoms than those in Labour's proposed legislation.

Labour has always been against the convention, as is shown by the Cabinet papers of the post-war years when it was drawn up. The measure was strongly opposed by Labour's then Lord Chancellor, the Colonial Secretary, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

They could not bear the idea of European Court of Human Rights jurisdiction when individuals or groups petitioned over alleged UK breaches of the convention. They were also worried that the convention would impede nationalism and other Labour policies.

Forty years on, the Labour leaders' attitude is just as reactionary. Instead of pledging themselves to take the obvious, easy and speedy step of incorporating the European Convention into British law, they have gone for a cumbersome, lengthy and difficult set of proposed Bills, the so-called "charter", which would protect only a few of the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed by the European Convention and would take a great deal of parliamentary time to achieve.

Labour's argument against incorporating the European Convention as at least part of a Bill of Rights is twofold. First, it means trusting the judiciary to interpret the Bill of Rights in an appropriate way. Second, and more important, it means protecting rights with which parts of the Labour Party are out of sympathy. It would almost certainly protect the public schools, for instance, and the rights of people who have bought

shares in the privatized industries, such as British Gas and British Telecom, to fair compensation if they are ever re-nationalized.

This is a dangerous line for Labour to follow. For a start, its selective approach would exclude a broad range of rights which most Labour supporters would like the law clearly to uphold, such as trade union rights and free speech for newspapers and broadcasting. And though few votes may be won by supporting rights for unpopular groups, such as prisoners, there is a strong moral argument for doing so. All these are covered under the European Convention; none is mentioned in the Labour charter.

Furthermore, a partisan approach means that Labour's Charter of Rights can never be seen as being truly above party, and therefore capable of effective enforcement. However, a true Bill of Rights, incorporating the European Convention, would

provide not only a clear statement of principle: it would protect individuals and minorities from majorities, including elected majorities, because there would be effective domestic remedies for the ordinary citizen in the domestic courts if any breach occurred.

One would expect the left to lead the way on this issue, particularly because younger people feel more and more strongly about it. Yet Messrs Hattersley and Kinnoch are at one with Mrs Thatcher in opposing such a measure because of the limitation of parliamentary power that it implies.

The Labour proposals for strengthening our race and gender discrimination legislation are important, but do not amount to a comprehensive Charter of Rights. Nor does the institution of a Freedom of Information Act, to replace the Official Secrets Act. Such a measure is undoubtedly necessary; the onus must be on

government to prove that it is in the national interest to restrict access to information about government actions and policies which rightly belongs in the public domain. But that is only one small part of the right to free expression enshrined in the European Convention.

It is not, however, only the incompleteness and partisan quality of the proposed Charter of Rights that is so objectionable. Labour also wants a new elected second chamber, from the regions, instead of the House of Lords. That would almost certainly mean an inbuilt Labour majority in the second house, which would, in the new dispensation, be able to delay legislation that went against these "rights" for five years. It would also take considerable time to establish the system, while incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights would be a comparatively simple and speedy matter.

The truth of the matter is that,

despite the change of heart among young Labour supporters, the party leaders are not serious about rights. They do not want to see the European Convention incorporated into British law and do not trust the judges sufficiently to let them act as checks and balances on the legislature and the executive. This mistrust is strange, since judges filling this role for decades; our own judges in this respect have a perfectly good record — for instance, Lord Lords sitting in the Privy Council interpret Bills of Rights for the 12 Caribbean Commonwealth democracies and Mauritius.

Labour does not share the progressive approach of other European socialists to these matters, and so all it has done is produce a piecemeal set of reforms which will do nothing to convince the ordinary citizen that there is protection in law against possible abuses of rights by the government, of whatever political hue.

Robbi Neuberger was a founder member of Charter 88.

Jut-setter in the dentist's chair



GRIFF RHYS JONES

anchored in their sockets with kedge, grapple and haling twine. I didn't know you could stick needles there either, but then you do discover things at the dentist's, including the capacity to endure little bits of wire being twiddled about up your teeth. Not that one feels anything, of course, except, perhaps, what it's like to have one's mandibles scoured out with a dynamo rod.

"I have all my own teeth," says some plucky pensioner, baring yellow chompers of excessive length and glossiness thanks to a lifetime eating carpet and other British delicacies. Well, good for you, dearie, so have I; though rather too many of them are now

subscribers to *My Weekly* will read that one of us has a high-angle mandibular prognathism and the other has a low-angle maxillary hypoplasia, which are different ways of saying that we both have the same neanderthal bite. Our bottom set of gnashers projects beyond our top set.

Check your own. You see. Your top ones go over your bottom ones. If they don't, stay away from dentists with orthodontic ambitions. You are one of between 3 and 8 per cent of the population, and dentists like conformity to the post-ice Age norm. I was school because, when I was a schoolboy, the Eastman Dental Hospital decided to fur-

nish me with a designer bite. I was wired up. Pieces of metal were hammered on to every spare dentition. I had a plastic plate in my mouth and a couple of tiny rubber bands hooked from the

front of my bottom set of teeth to the back of my top set. At night I wore what appeared to be Victorian underwear strapped to my head: elasticated garters with metal gronmets hooked over prongs glued to my incisors. It was a mistake to eat certain foods: foolhardy, like throwing coffee into a steam engine. I had a smile like the front of a mechanical excavator.

The trainee dentists would take the sweetest little spanners to the tiniest little nuts and tighten them the minutest fractions. This caused the hugest pain. One day the consultant interrupted them in mid-crank and peered at me solemnly. "I think it's heredi-

tary," he said. He meant that they were fighting my genes, and my genes were winning. "Take this lot off!" I wiped away a grateful tear. Then he looked down at my chin. "I suggest we slice a section out of the lower jaw on both sides and push the whole lot back half an inch."

I was out in the Gray's Inn Road with my mouth still wide open before you could say "Ahh." Naturally I went nowhere near the dentist for the next 15 years. That is why I'm losing all my teeth now. In a while my lower gums will stick out beyond my upper gums.

I can still gnash. In the event of social congress, I can bare my

teeth to indicate affability. But to the professional eye, I am deformed. Luckily, Miss Taylor was not a frowning work.

"I am writing to ask if you would permit me to show a slide of the pair of you in classic head-to-head pose as part of the introduction to one of my lectures."

The slide has been furnished. Glaswegian orthodontic students will look upon our jaws and turn to their spanners and braces with renewed vigour. And why? Because they will see that their skill might save someone from having to prostitute their facial abnormalities in a grotesque television freak show, that's why. "No, spare me your thanks. 'It was nothing.' I say. Well, actually, I say 'It was nothing', but that's because I have a peculiar bite. I must do something about it some day."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MOTORWAY SANITY

The horrific crash in thick fog on the M25 on Monday night has been followed by the now traditional warnings to motorists that speed, fog, and motorways make a potentially fatal combination. The tendency to go too fast in fog is a phenomenon the police have labelled "motorway madness," a phrase which has passed into the vernacular.

While all such warnings are timely, and it is of course true that the safety of motorways depends on the discipline and skill of those who use them, there is another danger — that of fatalistic acceptance of the inevitability of serious crashes in fog — which represents another form of madness. It is as if every time there was serious fog, people would expect to hear, almost as a matter of course, that an aircraft or two had crashed on landing at Heathrow, or a few trains had collided head-on. In fact the public would not tolerate it. If airports were not safe in fog, it would demand that they be closed until visibility was clear again. And that in effect is what happens.

Perhaps, therefore, the time has come for a different approach on the roads. The very phrase "motorway madness" implies that the only real solution lies in encouraging more responsible behaviour on the roads, as if the only issue was driver culpability. But it is false logic to assume that as soon as a motorist sees fog he abandons his usual caution and decides deliberately to run a much higher degree of risk than he otherwise would. It is more likely that he tries unconsciously to adjust to the greater risk as he understands it, but calculates it wrongly. The task, therefore, is to make such calculations of risk by individual drivers more realistic and accurate.

This is a problem of communication and design, which is to some extent already being recognized. In theory at least it ought to be open to technological solutions. The section of motorway where Monday's collision happened was due to be equipped by this winter with a sophisticated fog warning system controlled by computer, but unfortunately the system was not ready in time. Its purpose is to emphasize to drivers that they are driving in fog, which at first sight might seem obvious, but experience has taught that such warnings are necessary and indeed are effective.

Such measures work by penetrating the false sense of security which is a feature of motorway driving and one of the primary causes of accidents. They alert a driver to the fact that his normal automatic and almost unconscious responses are not likely to be good enough in certain unusual conditions. The same is true of the tactic the police sometimes adopt, of patrolling fog-bound roads intensively (and at a safe speed) with their blue flashing lights switched on.

The distance between vehicles has been identified as a crucial factor in motorway safety, never more critically so than in fog. Some thought has already been given to various measures, including the French practice of special road markings. This works by improving the quality of the information fed to the driver and by offering it early enough to allow him to leave the motorway before meeting the hazard.

It is not beyond the possibilities of the technology now available to design automatic sensors capable of measuring the distance from the vehicle in front, or sensors capable of measuring the density of fog, either attached to the car or installed at the roadside. These would give the driver the additional information he seems to lack; conceivably they could even be designed to over-ride his judgement if he ignored them. Undoubtedly if aircraft were regularly colliding in the air in fog, it is to some such technological remedies that aircraft operators would be forced to turn. This approach is already incorporated in railway signalling systems — if a locomotive driver passes a signal at red the train brakes are applied automatically.

Such technologies are bound to be expensive. But they should not be rejected just because they would reduce the comfortable sense of autonomy of the man at the wheel. Without such a new approach, few things are more inevitable than that there will be another dozen or so serious multiple motorway accidents in fog by the end of the century. The question is whether the community should continue to regard this frightening prospect as tolerable, or whether the time has come to design motorway madness out of the system, even if the cost of doing so is high.

MR HURD'S BALANCING ACT

Mr Douglas Hurd's speech on Europe yesterday made some progress towards reconciling the divisions within the Tory Party on policy towards the Community. His balancing act consisted of stressing the "fundamental" significance of changes in Eastern Europe for the future evolution of the Community, (the Prime Minister's favourite theme), while emphasizing that the dismantling of the Iron Curtain strengthened the validity of the Community rather than undermining it.

A change in tone may not, however, be enough to reassure Britain's dispirited posse of MEPs who are to meet Mrs Thatcher on January 24. The order of priorities Mr Hurd set out for the Community in 1990 betrays, perhaps, where the heart lies: help for Eastern Europe came first, followed by pressing ahead with the 1992 Single Market; "practical and substantial debate" on monetary union came third. Yet that is where the heart of the controversy has come to lie: EMU has become shorthand for the debates over sovereignty.

Mr Hurd's speech provides some pointers to the spirit in which the Government will approach the inter-governmental conference on monetary union. The point to grasp, according to Mr Hurd, "is that we are arguing about the nature of economic and monetary union not the fact". While in substance that represents no advance on policy agreed since the EC summit in Madrid last summer, it indicates the Government's acceptance that the debate on EMU cannot be delayed.

The British position remains that EMU can only be realized after completion of the Single Market, including the dismantling of exchange controls and free trade in financial services. But the Foreign Secretary's tone was decidedly positive, even optimistic, in his prediction that progress to a "single financial area" in 1993 was of course. And, in an apparent departure from British opposition at Strasbourg to the decision to convene the conference this year, he acknowledged that it makes sense to start

mapping out "practical detail". The end result, however, must still be "compatible with the national traditions of member states" — no sign there of accepting the budgetary corset of the Delors plan. Community decisions must be taken in the context of securing the stability of Europe as a whole.

The double entendre in the Foreign Secretary's welcome for the rediscovery in Eastern Europe of the pleasures of singing in harmony rather than union, and the prospect this offered for a "concert of Europe", will not be lost on Brussels. Nor, perhaps, will the importance the Foreign Secretary attached to American involvement in European affairs — an emphasis not wholly attributable to the nature of his audience.

His speech was addressed to the annual joint conference of members of the European Parliament and US Congressmen. Mr Hurd used the occasion to give enthusiastic endorsement to President Bush's new strategy of asserting a strong US interest in what it has termed the "new architecture" of Europe.

Setting out that strategy last month, the US Secretary of State, Mr James Baker, called for institutional links with the European Community, possibly even taking the form of a treaty. A treaty may not be the best approach, and Mr Hurd yesterday indicated a preference for closer practical co-operation rather than a formal framework. He lent unequivocal support, however, to the broader US objective of ensuring that measures to achieve European integration "bridge the Atlantic Ocean".

That is an issue which ought to transcend arguments over the "special" status of the Anglo-US relationship, or its compatibility with British commitment to the Community. The difficulty of adapting all Western institutions to change in Eastern Europe cannot be underestimated. It is, as he said, a challenge which Europe and the US must meet "shoulder to shoulder".

ROARING LIKE ANY LION

The House of Commons Select Committee on Agriculture demanded yesterday that all British eggs should be allowed to carry a stamp indicating their country of origin — in effect the return of the "little lion" mark on eggs. At first sight that amounts to no more than a storm in an egg cup.

Existing British and European regulations already allow egg boxes to state the country from which they come, and the Ministry of Agriculture is encouraging British egg producers to take advantage of that permission. But even if the committee's point is somewhat half-baked, they have in making it drawn attention to a serious result of the great salmonella egg crisis of last year. Now, at last, British eggs are best. Mrs Edwina Currie could hardly hope for a more satisfying memorial to her efforts.

From over-slackness, the British egg producing industry and the regulations governing its product safety have now swung to the other extreme. Britain is the only country in Europe with such a draconian poultry slaughtering policy — so severe that last year it drove protesting nuns into their hen-coops out of solidarity with their condemned chickens. If solidarity with their condemned chickens, if just one bird is found to be infected with salmonella, the whole flock has to be destroyed.

The evidence suggests that the chance of salmonella infection from an egg is now significantly higher if that egg hails from foreign parts. MPs are well aware that one egg looks much like another, and suggest discrimination against aliens should be made easier by identifying each one. They obviously have a certain preference for the soft-boiled egg

intact in its shell, for they have no suggestions for labelling the scrambled or fried variety.

If Common Market eggs upset British stomachs, they deserve the worst that can happen to them — which is to remain in the shops in their boxes, unbought and uneaten. Having put their domestic hen-houses in order, the British are entitled to demand no less from the egg importers. And there is no better lever than a market force to make them comply. First, however, the public has to be taught to tell one from the other. Clear labelling on boxes and a modest degree of publicity for the facts should be all that is necessary.

Foreign eggs cannot be banned by law from British shops without inviting the wrath of Brussels, but they can easily be banned by the action of the British housewife operating out of British kitchens. Foreign egg producers will quickly enough be clamouring for the introduction of uniform and stricter safeguards against salmonella once they discover the foreignness of their eggs has been rumoured, and is rapidly becoming a stigma against sales.

To the publicity necessary for this desirable outcome, the select committee has added its useful halfpence by its suggestion — a curate's egg, perhaps — that every British egg should wear a patriotic badge. Neither the ministry nor the industry jumped at the idea yesterday, and it would require an amendment to European egg regulations. The result of that would hardly be worth the effort, but the point is sufficiently controversial in its harmless way to generate attention for the wider issue.

How to attract ablest youth

From the Master of Churchill College, Cambridge

Sir, Mr David Davis, MP, in your issue of January 4, states a number of facts, but his drawing of conclusions is more debatable.

In our free market for choosing a job and, before that, for choosing a subject to read at university, pull is always far more effective than push. There are two main characteristics by which an employer can attract able young people — viz., by offering them a good chance of soon carrying real responsibility, and by a good salary.

City institutions and several major industrial companies know this, and generally get all the competent and ambitious young graduates they want; many companies who do not offer such jobs at such salaries deservedly do not so succeed. It is absurd to think that by making a career in pure science less possible we can drive young graduates to industrial companies who do not know how to use them or how to pay them properly.

I wish industry and commerce the best of luck in learning how to attract able young people. If they are so successful that, as a result, fewer excellent young people become academics, I will grin and bear it.

But that is very different from first, and with intent, reducing opportunities in pure science in the vague but surely forlorn hope that as a result good graduates will accept industrial jobs offering little scope and less money. They have plenty of other outlets, here and abroad.

Yours faithfully,
HERMANN BONDI,
Churchill College, Cambridge.
January 6.

From Viscount St David's
Sir, I agree with David Davis that British research into saleable technology is being held back by the insistence that all funding of research shall be in directions which have no visible saleable product in view.

Some four years ago I met Cedric Lynch, a young genius inventor, who had produced a radical flat-disc electric motor of 90 per cent efficiency, very much needed by our Green revolution. He was unable to get funds because it had a commercial use.

I helped to finance him and the result has already been a motor which has won all the electric road races, the only electric boat race so far held, and also the world speed record for electric boats — a clear win for Britain, as well as being a motor which can serve many other purposes. Is a motor of 90 per cent efficiency not important to our Green revolution, against the usual 65-75 per cent motors? Industry needs it!

Two of our motors, one mounted as an outboard, are on display on the Amateur Yacht Research Society's stand at the Boat Show, with a push-button attached to a one and a half-volt electric torch cell, so that you can powerfully turn a motor able to drive a 70-foot steel canal boat. Fionsa, Countess of Arran's electric speed boat, with our motors, is also displayed afloat on the pool.

We could get no help, and have had none, apart from London Innovation, a private enterprise survivor of the old GLC, and my idiotic self.

Yours faithfully,
ST DAVIDS (Director),
Electro Marine Technology Ltd.,
PO Box 919,
Loffing Road, NI.

Two-tier pricing

From Mr John Venn

Sir, I do very much hope that the Office of Fair Trading does not take up Mr Laurie's call (January 2) for shops to offer a cash discount instead of charging credit card users, once two-tier pricing is permitted.

If retailers give a discount to cash customers in addition, of course, to paying the commission on credit card sales, their cost will obviously rise — in our case by an amount equivalent to more than 15 per cent of our net profit.

As retailers tend to work to price points, it is likely that many items would be increased by more than the exact amount necessary to offset the cash discount. The effect of Mr Laurie's proposal is therefore likely to be inflationary. To charge a fee to credit card users would, on the contrary, reduce costs, and thus keep prices down.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. VENN,
The Bazaar,
1, Eastgate Square,
Chichester, West Sussex.

'Political' advice

From Sir Frederick Bishop

Sir, Your correspondent David Walker, writing (Whitehall Brief, January 2) in connection with the release of Cabinet papers for 1959, says that as the then Prime Minister's private secretary I expressed cogent views about "political" questions, for example in a memorandum on Government support for civil research and development.

Needless to say, I have no recollection of this particular bit of paper; in those days (to use the Paycock phrase) I had to "run hundreds of dockments through me" — but I hope that any views I then expressed were indeed cogent; it would have been foolish to express views that were not!

The question, as Mr Walker

Speeding up the wheels of justice

From the Head of Court Services, Lord Chancellor's Department

Sir, Geoffrey C. Honnywill's letter (January 3) contains a number of statements about the courts which do not properly reflect the present position.

He maintains that both criminal and civil courts are subject to delays unthinkable 10 years ago and that criminal trials take place years after the event. So far as the crown courts are concerned, the average waiting time between commitment to the court and trial is now about 10 weeks for cases where the defendant is in custody and 12 weeks when on bail.

In some areas the average for crown court custody cases is less than eight weeks, and in London, where over the years waiting times have been longer than elsewhere, the current waiting time is lower than at any time during the last eight years. These figures have been achieved during a period when the number of crown court cases received has increased from 73,811 in 1983-84 to 104,438 in the year ended March 31, 1989.

Mr Honnywill suggests that a letter written to Bromley County Court will almost certainly not be

read for two months. In fact letters received at that court are opened and read on the day of receipt by section managers. Urgent business is given priority and dealt with quickly but replies to some less urgent letters have been delayed.

Mr Honnywill also alleges frequent delays of 12 months in the payment of legal-aid fees due to the shortage of staff to assess the bills of costs. I assume he is referring to crown court costs as these are assessed by court staff. In the first half of the current financial year 77 per cent of all legal-aid claims by solicitors for crown court proceedings were assessed by crown court staff and paid within 28 days of receipt.

A total of 95 per cent of all crown court claims, within the same period, were assessed and paid within three months of receipt. The remaining 5 per cent fall within the small group of exceptional cases in terms of length of hearing and complexity.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND POTTER,
Head of Court Services,
Lord Chancellor's Department,
Trevelyan House,
Great Peter Street, SW1,
January 5.

Juries in fraud trials

From Dr Paul Robertshaw

Sir, It is clear from reading your distinguished correspondents (December 8, 15, 27; January 1) that there is a serious debate on what juries can and cannot achieve effectively, specifically in fraud trials. It is important to approach these issues with sensitivity and with empirical evidence rather than presupposition, all the more so now that the USSR — and, I believe, Hungary — are introducing this venerable democratic institution for serious crimes.

Fraud trials can present specific problems sometimes lacking in other types of trial, notably problems of numeracy and extreme length and complexity, though they usually lack the emotional stress of many crimes of violence. Deliberation in such cases can be a test of memory of the trial itself and of stamina as much as forensic skill.

Some of the forthcoming major fraud trials would be most suited to research in these areas. Some defendants might not wish to give their consent to such research, however discreet, seeing it perhaps as another burden to add to the considerable publicity which will doubtless attend these trials; but there is a steady stream of middle-range frauds, prosecuted by the Crown Prosecution Service rather than the Serious Fraud Office and by the Crown Office in Scotland, which might be better suited for at least pilot study and inter-disciplinary analysis.

There is a case for tape-recording informed jurors' deliberations. This is prohibited by section 8 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981,

but a ministerial dispensation under the royal prerogative would be timely in the public interest.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL ROBERTSHAW,
University of Wales,
Cardiff Law School,
PO Box 427, Cardiff.

From Lord Benson
Sir, His Honour Bernard Gillis and his Honour Alan King-Hamilton (December 27) argue that trial by jury is a "pillar of the administration of criminal law". In my letter to you of December 8 I pointed out that the protagonists of jury trials in serious fraud cases often base their views on high-sounding phrases which carry little conviction, such as "a lamp of liberty" and "a bulwark of democracy". In this context I see no difference between a lamp, a bulwark and a pillar.

They also argue that all serious fraud cases eventually boil down to a simple question as to whether the defendant knew that what he was doing was dishonest. I must repeat my contention, based on the Roskill report and its accompanying research, that the average juror cannot comprehend, still less remember, the complex issues which are put before him or her for four-and-a-half hours, day after day, for weeks on end; the jury's decision is therefore no better than a lottery.

This state of affairs is concealed from the public because serious fraud trials are not reported (if they were, the public would be as confused as the jury) and a jury is not required to explain or give reasons for its decision.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY BENSON,
House of Lords.

A piece of history

From Dr Alan McGowan

Sir, I can answer Kenneth Timings's query (January 2) as a miniature case inscribed "from the bowspirt of HMS Victory". The Victory was preserved and restored at the instigation of the Society for Nautical Research and with considerable financial assistance from the Save the Victory Fund, a charity which the SNR established in 1922 and still administers.

Victory was docked in January, 1922, an event that aroused a great deal of interest in the ship and led to the donation of a considerable amount of important historical material, pointing to the need for a Victory Museum.

Although the Admiralty made the old Dockyard Rigging House available in 1929, it was not until

1937 that sufficient funds had accrued for this secondary purpose — the restoration and refurbishment of the building. In that year work was begun and the Victory Museum was at last opened on July 25, 1938, by Admiral of the Fleet the Earl of Cork and Orrery.

An obvious way to raise money for the Victory Museum was by the sale of small items made from odds and ends of small timber recovered during the restoration. I suspect that the relic owned by Mr Timings is one such and June 2, 1937, was presumably the occasion of a fund-raising drive.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN MCGOWAN (Chairman,
Victory Advisory Technical Committee),
73 Barnfield Wood Road,
Beckenham, Kent.

Assisted places

From Mr V. S. Anthony

Sir, While I cannot explain the marked difference in the take-up of assisted places in the North-east compared with the South-west (report, December 27), it is not difficult to explain why the take-up rate has fallen in Greater London. Heads of independent schools have been telling officials for some time that the income scale (means test) is much too severe, particularly for a region where the cost of living (particularly housing and transport) is so high and rising.

We have argued the need for a significant modification — an income allowance — to compensate for this. An allowance of £5,000 off the national scale would substantially increase the take-up rate in Greater London.

As headmaster of a school which has always worked hard to keep places open to pupils from all, including the poorest, backgrounds it has been disappointing to find that parents of poorer pupils, who have done well in our entrance examinations, are unable to afford to take them up. In 1989 we had well over 100 applications for 26 assisted places and yet only 20 could afford to accept them.

With so many of our AP pupils making a success of their school careers, and not only in terms of academic results, I wish David Smith every success in his enquiry and hope that ways will be found to make the scheme ever more effective.

Yours faithfully,
V. S. ANTHONY (Headmaster),
Colfe's School,
Horn Park Lane,
Lee, SE12.

No doubt it is very easy for Civil Servants in special positions, such as the private offices of the Prime Minister or other ministers, to slip over the line and trespass in the party political field. But in general Civil Servants do not "contest for forms of government" but seek for "whatever is best administered".

I very much hope that Civil Servants will be preserved from having to undergo "training in politics" as your correspondent seems to suggest. If that came about we should soon find (to quote the Paycock again) "the whole country's in a state of chaff".

Yours faithfully,
FREDERICK BISHOP,
Manor Barn, Church Road,
Bramshott,
Liphook, Hampshire.
January 4.

Aftermath of Bhopal tragedy

From Dr M. K. Ajwani

Sir, I am writing following Stephen Miller's letter (December 28) from the St John Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem. Much of its work is similar to ours in Bhopal, also among poor people afflicted by man-made devastation.

The catastrophic leak of MIC gas from the Union Carbide plant on December 3, 1984, killed more than 2,000 people and injured more than 200,000. Ever since then a Sight Savers team of Indian eye doctors, paramedics, and nurses has been working to give eye care to the people affected by the disaster and to the surrounding community; we have treated about 272,000 people.

We now examine between 200 and 300 patients a day and give up to 200 sight-restoring operations each month. All this, last year, cost about £60,000.

We work from two small, simple eye hospitals — one in a converted warehouse in the centre of the city that we managed to lease soon after the disaster; one 10 miles out that was given to us in 1987 by a religious trust. We are building a new eye hospital in the centre of the city to take over and expand the work of the converted warehouse.

As well as out-patient and in-patient care, it will provide a community ophthalmology centre to undertake research, training, and outreach work. The building and equipment of this new hospital will cost about £338,000.

About 61 per cent of the patients we now see — more than five years after this, the world's worst industrial accident — have eye problems related to the MIC gas leak. However, we are delighted that, because of generous, caring people in Britain who have given and are giving to Sight Savers Bhopal Appeal, we are able to continue helping these people as well as establishing a permanent eye-care centre for them and their surrounding communities.

Yours sincerely,
M. K. AJWANI (Director, Sight Savers Bhopal Eye Hospital),
As from: PO Box 191,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.
January 8.

Teaching of history

From Mr Keith Martin

Sir, Those historians who argued that the inclusion of history in the new curriculum was an unqualified step forward for the subject in schools will have got an unpleasant surprise from the report in your issue of December 26.

On the one hand, what is to be taught as history in schools is to be laid down by the secretary of state. Yet, on the other, and despite the detailed work done by the national working group into devising a comprehensive curriculum for ages five to 16, it is now suggested that history may be dropped at age 14.

Quite aside from the fact that the history working group has yet to present its final report, one wonders which elements of modern-day history it is proposed not to teach to those who drop the subject at 14.

Yours sincerely,
K. MARTIN,
105a Lansdowne Road,
Tottenham, N17.

Where credit's due

From Mr Leonard Kettle

Sir, As someone who worked in the film industry for many years I have been intrigued at the ever-increasing number of credits given to those participating in the production of present-day offerings.

As a minor diversion I have tried to track the most banal, as at the end of the trivial production the lists roll tediously on, and one of my all-time "greats" was "assistant to the accountant".

During Christmas, however, the latter was swept into oblivion by a gentlemen credited as "standby plasterer".

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
LEONARD KETTLE,
9 Horton Road,
Slapton,
nr Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.
January 4.

Seasonal swap

From Mr and Mrs Ronald Davison

Sir, Mr Richard Need's plea (January 5) for pictorial calendars to show bleak winter scenes in July and the delights of summer January are easily obtained, from Australia.

Our friends in Sydney sent a copy of the Australian Geographic Society's calendar for 1989. It took some getting used to seeing pictures "in reverse", so to speak.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD DAVISON,
ANN DAVISON,
14 Muskhams, Bretton,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
January 5.

From Mrs Mary Burgess

Sir, Mr Need should obtain his calendars from Guernsey. My niece there sends me one each year, and the winter months are invariably illustrated by scenes of Guernsey in summer sunshine!

Yours faithfully,
MARY BURGESS,
21 Summerhill Road,
Saffron Walden, Essex.
January 6.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED FROM YESTERDAY'S LATER EDITIONS

THE ARTS

Killing inaction

TELEVISION
Oscar Moore

Recruited from the dullest and no-hope zones of Britain, the young squaddies could expect the Army to give some discipline, purpose and future to his life: at most a career, at least a sense of physical achievement.

Instead, the same bottom-of-the-barrel contempt is meted out to the green recruit inside and outside the army, with the difference that inside this contempt is accompanied by physical violence that in many cases brutalizes and in some cases kills.

How many stories have we read of jilted squaddies knifing their girlfriends? These are men knocked off-balance by perpetual abuse. How many stories do we need to read of death from heart stroke on full-kit runs, before the MoD decides the rules need changing?

The subject of *Taking Liberties: Dress to Kill* (BBC 2) was a public and official indifference to the squaddies' fate. From social delinquent to cannon-fodder, the squaddie goes from useless to used without winning any public affection. He is always disposable.

Now the public has begun to wake up as the families of soldiers who died after collapsing into coma (denied adequate medical attention and in several cases beaten as they lay dying) have protested. But the cover-up within the army is air-tight. Inquiry findings are not published. NCO brutality often seems to go unpunished.

Steve Hewlett's film was disturbing, but marred by a melodramatic soundtrack and absurdly inappropriate slow-motion footage of a soldier running across cliffs. Used as a series of links, this footage resembled an army commercial, glorifying the very exercises the medical experts had just derided.

Nothing, however, could dull the contempt and acerbic precision of that expert derision. What became clear from interviews with an Army doctor was that eight-mile runs in full kit are not only dangerous, but irrelevant to the military training of a modern soldier.

National Theatre boss Richard Eyre talks to Sheridan Morley about theatre on the South Bank and nationwide

Not making a crisis out of it

Fifteen months into his joint management of the National Theatre with David Aukin, the director Richard Eyre moves into the new decade with a kind of wary confidence.

"I have terrible twinges of shame and guilt," he says, "when I think how hard I was in my heart about Peter Hall before I understood what this job required. When he once said that his main achievement here had just been to keep the place open, I really didn't believe him, but a year on that seems to make perfect sense. Sometimes it's the very most you can hope to achieve. But, as David Mamet has it, things change: a year ago, even less, we'd have said that East Europe was unchangeable. Mrs Thatcher was unchallengeable, the Arts Council was unyielding."

"Now none of that is true any more. We are being given better grants, the box-office is way up on this time last year, indeed we are holding the biggest cash advance we've ever known, something like a million pounds for the next three months and that after a bad summer. We've suddenly come into a golden time, due at least in part to our announcement of the Sondheim musical *Sunday in the Park*, though even that seemed like a terrible risk when we started to plan it."

Does Eyre accept the notion that the National and the RSC operate on a kind of subsidized seasaw? "Not entirely; they may have had a rough time at the Barbican this summer but *Plautus* was a triumph, and a lot will depend on who they appoint as Terry Hands's successor."

"I'm not congenitally very envious, though of course there's a shard of ice in my soul when some colleague has a hit and I'm having a flop; but I look forward to the RSC rivalry, even if we end up chasing the same few actors and directors who are still willing to work for our kind of money."

After a brief honeymoon period, Eyre admits that his first months in office have had their fair share of disaster as well as triumph in this past year.



Richard Eyre: "People seem now to long for a spiritual dimension... for poetry... for something bigger"

"*Juno* [and the Paycock] was clearly a huge disappointment, though it was done in good faith, and for me personally it has been a terribly unhappy year with *Hamlet*." Mental exhaustion beset Daniel Day-Lewis and then illness struck the late Ian Charleson who replaced him. "A production which, in rehearsal, seemed to generate unstoppable energy came to a very sad end, and I felt that somehow I was to blame, because I have always unconsciously looked for *Hamlet* who were very close to the edge. The play exists on a borderline of danger, and perhaps I should have been more alert to that."

Looking back on a decade Eyre spent very largely in television (*Tumbledown*) and the cinema (*Ploughman's Lunch*), he remains faintly surprised that it has brought him back to a permanent theatre job.

"By the end of the Seventies I thought we had gone as far as we could with public theatre; I sensed the 1980s were going to be a much tougher time for the arts, and so when I was offered the 'peace with honour' of a BBC job I was very glad. But then to my amazement I kept missing the theatre, and even the involvement of being a manager. I missed the family feeling you get with a theatre company but never with a film or television crew, however close you may get to them for a short time."

"In terms of new playwriting, this has been a fairly terrible decade. We are still relying on the same people who were writing at the end of the last decade, and maybe even the one before that. Apart from Doug Lucie and Nick Dear it's very hard to name a major playwright of the Eighties, and the problem is not just underfunding. Money may allow

more people a chance, and it's appalling that the Royal Court had to close its studio stage, but you can't legislate for talent and at the moment adversarial ideas or moral debates are just not being encouraged. 'Rocking the Boat' would not be a theme song for the Eighties."

So what about the return to a kind of actor-power symbolized by the success of Kenneth Branagh's Renaissance company? "I'm not at all sure that's a bad thing: if you sit down with any group of actors and listen to them talking about directors, it is like hearing the camp guards at Buchenwald," being discussed.

What's good about Branagh is that he put his career where his mouth was. Most actors complain without doing anything about it: Branagh, like Jacobi and McKellen, is willing to jump into the bear-pit, rather than sheltering

all the time behind film and television cameras. Most actors are now sucked into rich cinema lives, and they just don't want to do live theatre badly enough to risk the reviews without even the compensation of good money."

Looking ahead to the 1990s, Eyre finds it hard to think beyond the new David Hare play which he is currently rehearsing for a February 1 premiere at the Cottesloe. "It's called *Racing Demon*, and it's the story of four clergymen in South London struggling to make sense of their mission in the inner city. It's about the problems of trying to do good in an evil world, and it's about the debate going on at the moment within the Church of England, which is not at all that unlike the one going on inside the Labour Party."

But on another level, it's about a lack of spirituality at the end of the most despiritualized and materialistic decade in recent history. People seem now to long for a spiritual dimension, which may explain the current rise in opera interest, and the hunger for Shakespeare, even in the West End. There's a longing for poetry which simply doesn't exist elsewhere, and as the landscape diminishes in every way, there's a yearning for something bigger."

"Further into the future I foresee endless battles about public funding, though morale is a lot better in the arts now the government has given us an increase, which in our case amounts to about 11 per cent over the next year."

There's an increasing interest in the exploration of theatricality, and I think we will see more attempts to push theatre towards opera, more reliance on visual imagery, but I hope also that our theatre will become more expressive. I don't see us becoming heavily conceptualized in a German way, but I do see a lot more invention and exploitation of theatricality. The caveat is that writers still seem frightened of the wide open spaces of the Olivier: we are still awaiting the next *Pravda*.

Was this the best of his oeuvre?

JAZZ
Clive Davis

John Dankworth
Ronnie Scott's

Forty years ago, John Dankworth, CBE, was upsetting the British jazz establishment as leader of the Johnny Dankworth Seven. At a time when modernism was still struggling to gain a foothold in this country, the saxophonist helped spread the gospel of jazz at concerts where the musicians' share of the profits often amounted to shillings rather than pounds.

Veterans from that period will be passing through Fifth Street over the next fortnight, as Dankworth stages a reunion of the Seven as well as his big band, which at one time or another included Kenny Clare, Peter King and a pianist by the name of Dudley Moore. Dankworth's alto saxophone has lost little of its edge over the years. The Seven's recordings, fired by intricate, sometimes over-elaborate arrangements, still sound fresh and inventive.

Whether the big band charts have worn as well must be open to question. Monday night's opening set was certainly a lacklustre occasion, though it was hard to decide exactly how much of the responsibility lay with the arrangements and how much with competent but uninspired ensemble playing.

With luck, the band will sound more compelling by the end of the residency. In the meantime it is worth watching for the contribution of Don Rendell, whose tenor solo added zest to a polite reading of "Stompin' at the Savoy". Another founder-member of the Seven, Eddie Harvey, leads the trombone section and provides one of the newer numbers, "Sweet Deja Vu".

Dankworth himself made an effective switch to soprano saxophone for Paul Hart's "Bye, Bye Manuel", a new piece dedicated to Panama's favourite son. The decision to re-work the Sixties suite "What The Dickens?" was, however, not such a good idea.

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Stout-hearted family likenesses

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

Boots for the Footless
Tricycle

One would not be surprised to learn that Brian Behan's first play had been dictated to him - perhaps via some Dublin-based spiritualist - by his famous brother from a bar in the backstreets of the Elysian Fields. The family resemblance is that great.

True, we are not talking here of the late Brendan's very best plays. *Boots for the Footless* stands in the same relation to them as stout to whisky. It pleasantly befuddles the head, cheers the heart, transmits a party feeling, somewhat as Brendan's *Richard's Cork Leg* did; but it has not the bite of his *Quare Fellow* or even of his *Hostage*.

Brian goes so far as to time-warp the action back to his brother's heyday, the Fifties, when it was relatively safe to guy the Irish as muddlers, make genial jokes about the republicans, and even suggest that a man waving a gun was less a menace than an unkempt buffoon.

He does all these things, at times becoming openly nostalgic in the process. Among the songs that intermittently interrupt the action, with their choruses of "diddle-doo, yiddle-yiddle-doo", is one lamenting the concreting-over of dear old Dublin and the passing of the "rare old times" you could enjoy there.

There is hardly more of a plot than in *Richard's Cork Leg*. Brian is always more interested in parading his characters' eccentricities than in shaping their collective story; and a pretty eccentric lot they are. There is Pader (Billy Boyle), first cousin to O'Casey's classically feckless Joxer, who spends the first half successfully avoiding work in a Dublin bedroom and the second doing the same on a London building site.

There is Bridie (Heather Tobias), the reason for his change of habitat. She spends much of the evening threatening to sue him for breach of promise and pursuing



Successful shirker: Bill Boyle plays Pader in *Boots for the Footless*

him with deadly weapons, all in hopes of securing his hand and his £5,000. The play cheerfully combines sentimentality and cynicism: another family trait.

Then there are Pader's two nephews, one a fervent communist and the other the rampaging patriot with a gun, both united against their foreman in London, an Irish royalist so keen to reconstruct the South Bank he has, he proudly says, "no wife but a concrete mixer".

Again like his brother, Brian evidently finds something a bit absurd about every ideology, left or right - and, indeed, about anyone inclined to take life solemnly.

The play could of course, and doubtless will, be attacked for being confused, loose, dated and frivolous, for perpetuating national stereotypes, and so forth; but to do so would be excessively

puritan and pretty humourless. In these rancorous times maybe we could do with more of the Behan family philosophy, which is (roughly) to live and let live, preferably with a glass in the hand and a scurrilous toast on the lips. To call the play untidy is to miss the point, since human untidiness is what it is basically celebrating.

In any case, Mike Bradwell's cast put over some entertaining lines with a rumpled, offhand charm it is hard to dislike. "What did I do for the working class? Make boots for the footless," says Boyle's ineffably idle Pader, giving the play its title. "All religion has given me is children and no sex when all I wanted was sex and no children," adds Walter McMonagle, playing his more driven brother. Well, all right, the quips have not got Brendan's nip; but they made me laugh at the time.

The lady doth protest too much

Jeremy Kingston

The Human Voice
Hampstead

there is emotion all right, gallons of it; the unnamed woman has lived with her lover for five apparently blissful years and does not want them to end. She pretends she is hearing up, reveals she has tried an overdose, never utters a word of reproach, caresses the instrument as though it were her lover's head and believes she has existed solely to be his beloved.

Or so Cocteau suggests, and the play's glaring fault is to give barely an inkling of how they were together. She is nothing but a woman saying, in effect, "Good-bye, don't go." Limiting the

relationship to these closing notes, with neither a theme nor recapitulation beforehand save for her statement that the past was joyful, leaves one with the feeling that the man is better off without this dripping tap.

Perhaps it sounds better in French. The actress in a recent Almodóvar film does it in Spanish and almost rips the wallpaper off her bedroom. Possibly this is the way to do it. Susannah York plays it for quiet tones and silent expressions of grief. There are passages where these do brush the heart; when her words are faint, husky and almost without breath, they hint at the anguish of a voice at the end of its tether, stretching out to the bowl of goodness sliding further from her grasp. At other times one feels, "Come off it, there is a meal elsewhere."

A torch for grandads

CONCERTS

Richard Morrison

PLG Young Artists
Purcell Room

Young performers are rightly expected to carry a torch for the music of their contemporaries. They might query whether it is also necessary for them to do missionary work on behalf of their grandfathers' contemporaries, especially those whom grandfather neglected first time round.

Such were one's thoughts when a fine American pianist, Thomas Kaurich, opened the week-long "Park Lane Group Young Artists and 20th Century Music" series with a real old curiosity shop of a programme. Kaurich's technique exudes power and a sense of daring; his preparation is clearly diligent and his perception excellent. None of which could really help to turn Tippet's First Piano Sonata towards presentability. It was written in 1936, when Tippet was floundering folkishly in search of his own voice, and among its eccentricities is an entombment of the Scottish tune "Ca' the Yowies".

Ernest Bloch's 1935 Piano Sonata is a more mature work, yet coming from a composer who was such a master of anguished quasi-Hebrew melancholy it is surprisingly acidic and brutal in its outer movements. Kaurich delivered it with a tremendous punch.

Between these two dinosaurs came *Labyrinth* by Edwin Roxburgh, one of the PLG's featured composers this week. The title seems to refer to the crabby, constricted scurrings for overlapping hands, which recur throughout; but interlarded with this is a

competent, if scarcely original, deployment of effective coloristic devices; notably chords dampened until only their harmonics sound.

The other featured composer, Anthony Powers, was represented later in the evening by a solo clarinet piece, *Sea/Air*, which was simple in structure - alternating explosive, high-velocity scales and trills with extremely slow, barely audible notes - but rich in fantasy.

It was the best played item presented by clarinetist Dov Goldberg, who had survived a shaky start in Lutoslawski's Dance Preludes, only to encounter Simon Parkin's *Songs for Marina* - clarinet and piano pieces of breathtaking purity, minimal in thought as well as style, and apparently inspired by the ever-depressed android in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Harvey Davies, an accomplished pianist, was hardly stretched intellectually here.

The evening's premiere was given by the mezzo Adele Paxton who (with the pianist Caroline Dowdle) used her full-bodied timbre and platform gravitas to excellent effect in *Ophelia*, a setting of the German poet Georg Heym by the young Cambridge-based composer, Andrew Lovett. The piano part was mostly an unsurprising watery ripple, stabbed occasionally by some more strident interjection (presumably to remind the listener that this stream contains something very dead), and the voice moved purposefully to a climax via uneasy, Henze-like contours. Yet the key atmosphere was sustained well.

Paxton has an admirable range and dramatic instinct; if she overcame her fear of breaking the vocal line to admit those boring, ugly things called consonants, her future would be bright.

Experience is not the only thing that matters

Hilary Finch

Essex Young Musicians
Wigmore Hall

shows. Her Brahms E flat Sonata and Kodaly's Adagio displayed formidable arm strength and long-sighted phrasing, and doubtless these qualities serve her well in her work with the BBC Concert Orchestra. But if she wants to pursue a solo career, more time will have to be spent on listening to intonation, to tones of voice, to character and idiom.

Alison Baker, on the other hand, plays the piano with all the confidence and teeth-gritted determination worthy of one who has sat in the lone chair of *Mastermind* and battled her way through numerous national competitions. Her Beethoven ("Les Adieux") and Chopin Fantasia in F minor revealed little but technical panache: imagination and communication as yet play little part in Baker's musical world.

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Maiden's answer to a prayer

Tracy Edwards's dream of leading her all-woman crew to victory in the Round the World Race is half-way to coming true, Barry Pickthall writes

At 27, Tracy Edwards is not only one of the youngest skippers to have entered the Whitbread Round the World yacht race, but at 5ft 2in, she is probably the shortest. She is certainly the first to sail with an all-woman crew — and the first woman to be leading her class.

Her achievement in overcoming sceptical male chauvinism to find £1 million in sponsorship and sail into Auckland ahead of four male crews in this toughest of events was rewarded yesterday with the highest accolade the sport can bestow — Yachtsman of the Year, a title bestowed by the Yachting Journalists Association. The presentation was held in Auckland, where Edwards's yacht, Maiden, is undergoing a refit before the 23-strong Round the World fleet sets out for Cape Horn on February 4. Peter Blake of New Zealand, whose Steinlager 2 leads the race overall, read out the citation.

"She has campaigned tirelessly to find both a sponsor and a boat, faced and overcome repeated setbacks, including committing herself to buying a boat with no major sponsor signed up," he said. "Her efforts in winning two legs of this race have also led to considerable publicity, virtually all of it favourable, for yachting in general and women's participation in particular."

Yet, almost exactly a year ago, Edwards's dream of competing in this 33,000 mile epic appeared to be shattered. After making more than 300 approaches to British companies, an electronics group which had shown great interest in her project finally said no, despite the patronage and continued support given to Edwards by the Duchess of York, who later christened the yacht.

With just eight months to go before the start of the race, however, money and time appeared to have run out. "I was so convinced that [the electronics group] would back us, we had the champagne ready in the fridge. When they rang to tell me their decision, I just broke down and cried," Edwards recalled yesterday. Broke, and with no leads to fresh sponsorship, Edwards telephoned her friend and mentor, King Hussein of Jordan. She had met him and Queen Noor, his American wife, in 1985, when the king chartered a yacht on which Edwards was crewing as cook.

"We became friends. He was very interested in my ambition to sail around the world, and told me I should contact him if I ever needed help or advice. He followed my passage as a cook aboard the Whitbread yacht Atlantic Privater



Twelve of the best: the crew of the Maiden congratulate Tracy Edwards on her Yachtsman of the Year award

"I was quaking in my shoes," Edwards said. "We had experienced some bad weather, but how would we cope with the extreme conditions of the Roaring Forties and Screaming Fifties?"

Edwards had good reason to be fearful. The weather was among the worst encountered in the 17-year history of the race, leading to one death, five other man-overboard crises, and three cases of broken bones. On Maiden, Claire Russell, the team doctor, was knocked overboard. Russell's life-harness stopped her from falling in the water, but the shock of nearly losing a crewmate took some time to overcome.

They experienced another close shave midway through the voyage, when Maiden narrowly missed two icebergs. "The radar did not pick them up," Edwards said. "It was a dark, moonless night, and the first I saw was a flash of light ahead. I turned round and saw another we had just sailed past."

Another aspect they found diffi-

cult to contend with was the intense cold. In one of Tracy's regular dispatches to *The Times* during the race she wrote: "It is bitterly cold and the wind just bites through the layers of clothing. Fingers are permanently unworkable. It is 8°C below deck and the heater is no more effective than sitting around a candle, so we can't even get warm."

Despite the conditions, the Maiden crew pulled out a 230-mile lead over their rivals. They capped this with a second victory on the next stage, from Fremantle to Auckland, building a 16-hour lead over the fleet at this half-way stage. Behind the boat is a supportive shore crew that includes pop star Simon Le Bon's brother Johnny, and Pam Hay, from Neley in Hampshire, who carries the title of Social Secretary. She controls the diary and crew uniforms and arrives in port ahead of time to investigate the best night-spots.

Edwards admits that her crew is

not as strong physically as its rivals, but overcomes this by finding better ways of tackling the harder jobs on-board. "A task that takes four men may require five women, but no one has ever minded getting up on deck to help."

And what is to follow once this race is over? "I certainly won't do this race again; I will have nothing to prove. We are writing a book [which is being serialized in *The Sunday Times*] about the race, and after that I want to take up flying helicopters," Simon Lawrence, the fiancé she left back home in Hampshire, paid for an initial two-hour lesson last year — "in the hope that it would put me off" — but after a spin with King Hussein in his own helicopter Edwards has been well and truly bitten by the aviation bug.

First, however, there is the little business of rounding Cape Horn and completing the Whitbread race back to Southampton next May. "We have a long way to go, but I have never been more confident in the boat and crew," she said.

No way to say goodbye

Revenge is chic, even for an MP, as the courts heard all last week. And when it's not tragic, it can be highly comic

I once wrote a short story about an affair which was ruined by the man's possessive mother. At the end, the vengeful girlfriend crept round in the dusk, lured the old virago's show poodle into the garden and cut off its pom-pom. Pure fantasy, of course; but not long afterwards I met a girl who demanded to know how I had found out her story. She had not, it transpired, desecrated a poodle but a fleecy Afghan hound. Her former lover bred them, and the night she found out about his other mistress she gently shampooed his potential Crufts champion — with cold-water fast dye, in vivid greens and purples.

When it comes to the fury of women (and men) scorned, fiction has a hard time keeping up with reality. For every witty revenge dreamed up by a novelist or a playwright, you can find a dozen more in the newspaper files. Cutting up a man's trousers is a favourite device in local-rep farces; but only last year there were stirring tales circulating that, in one famous case, Pamela Bordes had done precisely that. Writing *LOVE* on mirrors and smashing them would fit with equal grace into a torrid Andrea Newman mini-series or a dubious sitcom; yet all last week we were treated to allegations that

And information technology has brought new potential horrors: throwing a workaholic's Filofax in the river is nothing compared to what you could do to her floppy disks with a magnet or a computer virus. So far there are few reports of that nature, although there is an unverifiable rumour of a furious, jilted secretary who faxed some very compromising pictures direct to her beloved's strait-laced European chairman.

Women seem, by anecdotal evidence, more prone to such revenges than men (who, when not breaking things, chiefly specialize in spreading nasty stories in a deceptively caring tone — as in: "She needs help, but she won't get treatment"). In particular, girls have a tendency to strike like puff-adders at a man's pride, presumably because he has done such damage to theirs. It may shock the innocent to hear that not every stripper-gram is sent by a well-wisher. A former 20-stone rhyolite-gram once told me how she was recruited by "a rather nervous, jumpy woman", which made her suspicious; but it was only at the last minute she discovered she was about to burst into — in a black suspender belt — was a parochial church council meeting, and her target a curate.

'Girls have a tendency to strike like puff-adders at a man's pride'

So after the gathering she was about to burst into — in a black suspender belt — was a parochial church council meeting, and her target a curate. Ron Brown, a British MP had done just that. *Fatal Attraction* made a box-office smash out of psychopathic behaviour by an ex-mistress, including serving up the family's pet rabbit; but even nastier things turn up weekly in the law courts.

One prefers to pass hastily over the more unpleasant forms of lovers' revenge: the girl who felled her boyfriend by serving him a "civilized" last meal of ham which she had kept for a week in the airing cupboard, the poisoning of pet animals, and worst of all the vicious use of children — either by snatching them abroad to punish a wife, or by insidiously turning them against an absent father. That way lies only tragedy; but if you want comedy, the field is actually far richer.

The straightforward blow to the wallet is the most obvious form of revenge. British Telecom must be laughing if there is any truth in even half the stories about wronged partners ringing up the Zambian speaking clock and leaving the receiver off before locking up the flat for a fortnight.

case fiction has more distance to catch up. There are some good ideas around: in *Behaving Badly* Dame Judi Dench deploys the ultimate ex-wife's weapon of simply moving back into the family home and gangling up with the new wife on her husband. In Shirley Lowe's and Angela Ince's book, *Swapping*, the jilted housewife sets up an advertising agency and takes over her ex-husband's best account, getting him sacked. And in *Coronation Street*, bespectacled Deirdre Barlow has discovered that she legally owns half of Ken's beloved local newspaper, on which he is working with his new yuppie mistress.

What will she do? It would be boring merely to bankrupt him. Perhaps she could demand editorial equality and fill the *Weatherfield Recorder* with reviews of feminist tracts. Or she might donate her shares to the Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh to further his educational mission. Given a fair wind and a good grudge, the possibilities are endless.

Libby Purves

Gold of the Vikings

In York the lion of commerce lies down with the lamb of archaology. Nigel Andrews as found at the Viking Centre. In *The Times* on Saturday he continues his out-of-season tour of Britain's top tourist attractions.

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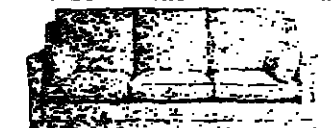


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MULTIYORK

All change for BT

British Telecom is relaunching its credit card as Chargecard, and targeting it at domestic as well as business users for the first time. The cards are free, but calls made on them carry an additional charge of 20p, and are charged at payphone rates. Subscribers are issued with a special number to dial which — BT assures — will work even in phones which do not accept 100, 0800 or 192 calls. And the cards can be used to call the UK from more than 120 countries. Dial freephone 0800 800 805 for further information.

So long, sofa

Finding a furniture bargain in the sales is only half the battle — getting rid of your old sofa, bed or wardrobe can be equally traumatic. Local charities might be grateful for large items, but they are rarely prepared to pick them up. "Community furniture" schemes will collect, restore and re-sell items at modest prices to people who need them. Your local council might be able to put you in touch with one, or you can telephone or write (including an SAE) to the Community Furniture Network, Highbank, Hutton Street, Hyde, Cheshire SK14 2NY (061 3678780).

Power play

The batteries in most of the toys bought for Christmas are probably already running down — along with the parents. With £2.50-worth of batteries needed for some, it can cost £10 a week to keep a remote-controlled car going. Mercury and cadmium-free batteries, now widely available from greenish manufacturers such as Varta, are still a drain on the finances, even if

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

they are environmentally preferable. And slow-moving solar-powered toys (available from the Science Museum and shops for around £11.50) may never catch on. The Victorians used to produce sophisticated moving toys using mechanical power. Isn't it time for a toy industry award for the cleverest moving toy which does not require batteries?

Knitter natter

The great revival of tapestry and knitwear is reflected in the 1990 tapestry and knitting catalogue from Ehrman: the company's tenth, and the first to carry a £1 charge. "It is the largest and most ambitious catalogue we have produced," Hugh Ehrman says. There are 76 new kits and 80 pages of colour photography covering spectacular offerings by Kaffe Fassett, Susan Duckworth, Sarah Windrum and other leading designers. "With looser shapes and richer colours returning the urge to knit is back," Ehrman says. The catalogue is available from Ehrman, Freeport, London W8 4BR (01-937 4568).

Quote me...



"You can't take the children down from the shelf 10 years later."

Norman Fowler

Out in the wash

Alongside all the new "green" (or greenish) washing powders is Lever Brothers' Radion, the unapologetically radioactive-sounding detergent which promises to blast body odours out of clothes. Admittedly Radion is a "low temperature" wash, which saves energy, but it makes no pretence of not containing phosphates and is proud of its patented, deodorant perfume. The company says: "If Persil is about 'caring', Radion is tough — more up-front about things like odours. And our market research showed that people are concerned about them." Lever Brothers is banking on the fact that the "ring around the collar" brigade still carries more consumer clout than those who get hot under the collar about the greenhouse effect.

Cold shoulder

The success of Britain's anti-fur campaigners has been demonstrated by the House of Fraser's decision to ban furs from all but its flagship store, Harrods, and the dramatic seasonal fur sales and fur shop closures.

Now it looks as if anti-fur propaganda is taking effect in America, where East Coast matrons traditionally swathe themselves in mink and Hollywood wives sweat in sable and silver fox. Not only has Lynn, the animal rights campaigner, just opened its first American branch in Beverly Hills, but Aspen, the celebrities' favourite Colorado ski resort, is debating a ban on fur coats coming to life and running off, yapping reproachfully. With Italian fur-worshippers such as Armani now producing fakes that cost as much as the real thing and provide the status without the stigma, we shouldn't feel left out in the cold.

Victoria McKee

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A year filled by cameras and guns

Next week a dozen colleagues join me to try to sort out the winners for this year's Royal Television Society journalism awards. The awards, reflecting work done in 1989, will then be formally presented at a private screening and dinner, which is not without an obvious added tension. It takes a certain skill to sit idly by, plumped up and drink-laden, applauding pictures of the latest famine in Ethiopia, or the horror of Hillsborough.

Year-on-year comparison of what the various television organisations chose to enter is revealing. Whereas once most work was the product of one reporter and crew attending an occasion or event, nowadays the flexibility of equipment, coupled with the world-wide use of swift satellite transmission, has pushed team work to the fore.

Although British television cannot match the Americans for either money or manpower, it still manages to put a formidable number of troops in the field, from Tiananmen Square to Timisoara. Anyone who saw the recent fine review of Sir Robin Day's career, which included much of his pioneering overseas reporting, could not fail to note the contrast. The heavier investment matches an increased sense of newsworthiness, or at least of the feeling that the public should be given news most of the time. No terrestrial television broadcaster yet offers a round-the-clock on-air news operation, as do Sky and the American Cable News Network, CNN.

However, as Kate Adie pointed out in a post-Tiananmen after-dinner talk, for the reporter in the field what the BBC and ITN now offer amounts to much the same thing. The machines keep running. Adie also noted that a fresh set of problems arise for the reporter at the scene. When, in the context of a 24-hour operation, is the "deadline"? More specifically, when do you stop filming, go back to base, and prepare, polish and transmit what you have shot, anxiously aware that your rival, operating on a different schedule, may have held out for better? Of course, this problem has been present ever since the BBC monopoly was broken by ITN, but nowadays the greater camera presence, coupled with increased transmission, seem to make the outcome more visible.

More visible, too, is the extent to which camera and crowd interact, so that political change seems to be brought about or not by, with, and through, the

camera. Individual journalists are, therefore, in constant danger of becoming part of the action. But, even in a year of tumultuous upset and surprise, on-the-ground reporters kept a crucial distance.

To my eye, the London-based newsreaders also wobbled from time to time, displaying flashes of simple-minded Western optimism. The flavour lay somewhere between that of an election-night studio romp and the rivalry of the Eurovision Song contest. Bulgaria: *deux points*. Albania: *nul point*. For democracy? Easy endorsement-by-association of what the camera may do needs to be kept in check. Remember, as we applaud the "popular" uprisings in Eastern Europe, that such manifestations have been less welcome in, say, Northern Ireland. Note, too, that the camera did not prove mightier than the bullet in Peking, and it was a close thing in Bucharest. Just as it has always been simplistic to blame the collapse of the American effort in Vietnam on television, so, too, it is easy to credit television today with too great a role. Clearly television has accentuated matters, and has acted as an accelerator.

But it is not itself the trigger. The Romanian episode, and coverage of it, was important in a more prosaic sense. In mid-year the BBC had clearly outclassed ITN in Peking; in Bucharest the boot was on the other foot. The levelling up of fortune has been particularly timely. This week the Commons committee on the Broadcasting Bill begins its deliberations.

The Bill includes provision that the new-model Channel 3 contains news and an established news provider or providers, but it still leaves room for doubt about adequacy and methods of funding. The ITN system has often been something of a pain to ITV managing directors, who grumble about escalating costs. The sad truth is that anyone wanting to keep abreast of reportorial developments will be obliged to spend high.

In journalism, you are either on the spot, or you are not. If you are, the work will be first-hand. If not, you can only reflect at one remove; you cannot authenticate. Any medium-sized country that takes television seriously should be able to afford at least two well-funded and free-standing sources of authentication, and, therefore, of cross-referencing. The last days of 1989 hammered the point home.

BROADCAST

Brian Wenham

A woman's own rise

It is said that she never loses a fight, but Bridget Rowe's new role takes her to a different front, Sally Brompton says

The electronic red sign flashing in the foyer of International Publishing Corporation's magazine headquarters yesterday read: "Bridget Rowe to edit *TV Times*; Keith McNeill to edit *Woman's Own*." After four years in the editor's chair of *Woman's Own*, Rowe, aged 39, is leaving the cut-throat world of women's magazines to move into the no less cut-throat world of television publishing at a time when the listings battle is about to explode.

Her departure means that, for the first time, the two flagships of IPC's women's magazine empire — *Woman's Own* and *Woman's Own* — will be edited by men. Significantly, both Keith McNeill, aged 36, and David Durman, 41, *Woman's Own* editor for the past two years, have worked as Rowe's "incredibly loyal" deputies on *Woman's Own*, a fact which Rowe regards as an accolade to her own steady rise up the magazine hierarchy.

"If David hadn't been made editor of *Woman's Own*, I think I would have taken it very personally," Rowe says. "I would have been very upset because I think they both deserve it and are absolutely the right people for those jobs."

To suggest, in true women's magazine style, that Rowe taught "her boys" everything they know would clearly be a libellous exaggeration. Nevertheless, Rowe, a highly-regarded professional in the mass magazine market, admits: "I do think it's part of an editor's job to help and encourage deputies. In some ways it is a harder job than being editor because you often get the rotten bits and you do have to pick up the pieces a lot. And it's so important for an editor to have a strong deputy with a loud voice, otherwise the editor can be like a runaway train."

She enjoyed some splendid rows with both Durman and McNeill and also, no doubt, with Richard Barber, her former deputy on *Woman's Own* and former editor of *Woman's Own* and *Woman's Own*, whom she is now replacing as editor of *TV Times*. "The great thing about it was



Moving: Bridget Rowe's *TV Times* post brings changes for former deputies Keith McNeill (left) and David Durman

"I think it's part of an editor's job to encourage deputies. In some ways it is a harder job than being editor because you have to pick up the pieces. It's important to have a strong deputy, otherwise the editor can be like a runaway train"

that neither David nor Keith would ever let me nod off and I wouldn't ever let them nod off."

Durman recalls a "blazing row" with Rowe six months after he joined *Woman's Own*. "I was feeling very fed up with her and sorry for myself when she said, 'just because we're rowing doesn't mean we can't have a drink, and she opened her fridge and produced a bottle of champagne, and I thought 'here's a lady with style'." Even so, neither he nor McNeill can remember winning an argument with Rowe. "Bridget always wins a fight," Durman says.

The daughter of a former director of W.H. Smith, Rowe did a business course before joining *She* as the office junior, where her job included looking

after the editor's goat. She progressed up the sub-editors' tables of *She*, 19, and *Club* — IPC's short-lived magazine for men — moving into the editor's chairs of *Woman's Own*, *Sunday* and then *Woman's Own*, with a brief interlude on *The Sun* as assistant editor (features).

She has still to plan her onslaught upon the proposed deregulated world of television listings. "I have no idea what the current situation is," she says. "The whole thing is very complicated and something I will obviously get my brain round in the next couple of weeks." Already a devoted fan of *Coronation Street*, she intends to widen her television viewing over the coming months. "I adore getting my dressing-gown on and

putting my feet up and watching a jolly good film on telly."

She feels that she has made *Woman's Own* more socially aware during her editorship, with campaigns such as that to improve conditions for rape victims, and last summer's "green" issue. "Woman's Own" readers are carers and slightly stronger in their opinions than *Woman's Own* readers," she claims, acknowledging the in-house competition between the two magazines which "builds up every now and again into us shutting lift doors on each other. Since David has been editing *Woman's Own*, we've been able to double-think each other. There's a lot of bluff and counter-bluff, but it's good sport."

She will miss the daily cut-and-thrust with both Durman and McNeill. "If they've picked up anything from me I hope it is that you can commit yourself to something and work incredibly hard but have enormous fun doing it." Durman describes her as "the most exciting person I've ever worked with", while McNeill speaks of her "infectious enthusiasm" and stubbornness. Both agree that "she chooses her men well". "I think she lives a lie," Durman says, "because she's an old sofie, really."



Editor 'Panorama'

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ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

By Huon Mallalieu

High water mark

January and London may not be an ideal combination for many, but for lovers of drawings and watercolours there are attractions enough to offset the weather and post-festive depression. The annual show of the English School at Agnew's in Old Bond Street always began at the end of the month, running through February, but this year's exhibition will open on March 12. The reason for the break with tradition is the success of a newcomer, the World of Drawings and Watercolours fair in the Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly.

The fair this year will have only one participant from overseas, Sven Bruntjen from California, because the organizers have been careful to balance the various periods and styles, and there are about 50 exhibitors with differing fields of expertise.

It is not only a feast for devotees of English watercolours. Of course, the core is the English School, with a good number of specialists in the earlier works as well as the Victorian period, but there are also Old Master and modern drawings from many countries. An indication of the success of the fair was the way in which the main sale rooms, Sotheby's and Christie's - normally in hibernation at this time - organized watercolour sales on its centenary last year. This was not entirely satisfactory for them, because many dealers and collectors were tied up at the fair. This year, Christie's is not repeating the experiment, but Sotheby's has a sale at Bond Street on January 31, and will also offer watercolours at Billingshurst, West Sussex, on January 16.

The fair will be opened on

Watercolours and other works on paper are steadily regaining public popularity, as a fair entering its fifth year illustrates

January 24 by an eminent artist, John Ward, RA, who is not just a well-known portrait painter in oil, but an effective landscape painter in watercolour.

The fair continues until January 28, and there will be two lectures. Works on sale are expected to cost from £50 to six-figure sums. As is usual at leading art and antiques fairs, there will be a loan exhibition at the heart of it, this year from one of the best private collections of Pre-Raphaelite drawings in the country.

Will this exhibition boost the sales of such Pre-Raphaelite and

Victorian-fancying dealers as Jeremy Maas, chairman of the fair, Julian Hartnoll, Christopher Wood, Peter Nahum and Chris Beales?

The last of these had been intending to organize a parallel exhibition in his St James's gallery devoted to the Old Watercolour Society, but the publication of the book that was to accompany it has been put back to June, so Beales is concentrating his efforts on the this month's fair.

The "Old", now Royal, Society was founded in 1805, in the middle of what for many purists is

the high period of the English School. J.R. Cozens and Thomas Girtin were dead, but Turner, Cotman, Cox, Varley and de Wint were at an early stage in their careers. Because they were cut off from the artistic influences of the European Continent, and in particular the neo-classicism of Imperial France, they developed a force and technical virtuosity that astonished the European painters after Waterloo.

Before and after the Napoleonic Wars, however, contacts between the British and Continental Schools were close, and it will be quite natural to find works by the Dane Nicholas Dall, RA, the Swiss Samuel Hieronymus Grimm or the Frenchman Louis Francia on the stands of such "Early English" specialists as Anthony Reed, William Drummond, Marlyn Gregory and Mark Fisher. For the 17th and 18th centuries, as seen in the Inigo Jones show at the Royal Academy, it can be pointless to try to draw the boundaries too clearly between English and Continental Old Masters.

A further example of this cultural crossing will be seen next month in Sotheby's sale of topographical paintings and watercolours on February 16, which includes a collection of 72 Mediterranean views by Luigi Mayer, an Italian-trained German.

Between 1776 and 1792, he toured the Ottoman Empire on behalf of the British ambassador, Sir Robert Ainslie. His work is excellent as an example of the pre-revolutionary style common to much of Europe.

• Huon Mallalieu is editor of the quarterly magazine, *Watercolours & Drawings*.



A 1791 watercolour by the witty Thomas Rowlandson, about 8in x 11in, which will be on sale at £8,500

Selected events, January 10 to February 6. Auctions start at 11am unless otherwise stated.

To Jan 20: View of the Harper Collection of shell-related material. Auction Jan 24, 25, Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, W1 (01-629 6602).

To Jan 21: Exhibition of the al-Tajer collection of gold and silver, Christie's, King Street, SW1 (01-839 9060).

Jan 13: Sale of jewels, Sotheby's, Billingshurst, West Sussex.

Jan 11: Sale of cameras and photographs, Christie's South Kensington, Old Brompton Road, SW7, 2pm.

Jan 11-13: Northern Ireland Antique Dealers' Fair, Cultra Manor House, Holywood, County Down (0537 832029).

Jan 12-14: West & Wales Ceramics Fair, Two Rivers Hotel, Chesham, Bucks (0494 464).

Jan 13-14: North Cotswold Antiques Fair, Stanway House, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire (0880 537153).

OTHER SHOWS

Jan 13-15: Antiques Fair, Bakewell Town Hall, Derbyshire (062961 2449).

Jan 16: Sale of furniture and pictures, Philip Lane & Jolly, Worcester Road, Malvern, Worcestershire.

Jan 16: Sale of silver, including collections of stick pins and thimbles, Sotheby's, Booth Mansion, Chester.

Jan 16: Sale of costume and textiles, Christie's South Kensington, 2pm.

Jan 17: Sale of wine, Sotheby's, New Bond Street, W1.

Jan 18: Sale of ceramics and furniture, Hy Duke, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester, Dorset.

Jan 18: Sale of ceramics and glass, Sotheby's, Billingshurst, West Sussex.

Jan 18 & 19: General sale, including pictures, Graves, son & Picher, Holland Road, Hove, East Sussex, 10.30am and 2pm each day.

Jan 18-21: West London Antiques Fair, Kensington Town Hall, Horton Street, W8 (04447 2514).

Jan 25-Feb 9: Exhibition of Kakiemon porcelain from country houses, Christie's, King Street, SW1 (01-839 9060).

Jan 25: Sale of wine, Christie's, King Street, SW1.

Jan 26: 10.30am: Sale of militaria, Christie's, South Kensington.

Jan 26-28: Lancashire Antique Dealers' Fair, Winter Gardens, Blackpool (0637 832029).

Jan 26-28: Ceramics fair, Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, W1 (0634 723461).

Jan 31: Sale of toys, Sotheby's, Bond Street, W1.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS:** Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-839 4401). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Open Jan 16-17pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm, 8.15pm.

★ **HEDDA GABLER:** Elizabeth Cullin, Richard O'Callaghan in new adaptation of Ibsen's screw-driving marital drama. King's Head Theatre, 115 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm. Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm.

★ **THE HUMAN VOICES:** Susanah York in Cocker's celebrated monologue for women and telephones. Swiss Cottage, NW3 (01-722 9224). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm.

★ **KRAPP'S LAST TRAP:** David Warfield in a most successful Beckett double-bill. Carfax Theatre, 115 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm.

★ **A LIFE IN THE THEATRE:** Danholm Elliott and Samuel West in Mander's study of an old actor and his ambitious junior: the players stronger than the play. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2600). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm.

★ **THE PELICAN:** Second in this theatre's occasional series of Strindberg's chamber plays: this one melodramatizes a mother's love. Gate Theatre, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembroke Rd, W11 (01-229 0706). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm.

★ **SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION:** Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's prizewinning, opening the new Almeida Theatre Company's season. Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-359 4404). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm.

★ **SEVEN YEARS:** Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare, a complex play about mismanagement and corruption. Excellent performance by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Wrestling School. Royal Court Theatre, 66-67, St Mark St, SW1 (01-730 1745). Tue-Fri, 8pm. Sat 8.15pm, Sun 3.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sun 3.30pm.

TELEVISION TOP 10

Notional top 10 programmes in the week ending December 31:

BBC 1
1 Crocodile Dundee 21.77m
2 Neighbours (Wed 19/12/89) 20.95m
3 EastEnders (Tue 18/12/89) 20.85m
4 Only Fools and Horses 20.22m
5 Neighbours (Sat 16/12/89) 19.30m
6 Bread 16.51m
7 Russ Abbot Christmas Show 15.01m
8 EastEnders (Sun 17/12/89) 13.88m
10 Tweeny 13.02m

ITV
1 Coronation Street (Wed/Sat 21/26m)
2 Coronation Street (Fri/Sat 20.84m)
3 Coronation Street (Fri/Sat 18.10m)
4 Best of British 16.02m
5 This Is Your Life 14.07m
6 Home and Away (Thurs) 13.07m
7 Home and Away (Wed) 12.85m
8 Down and Out in Beverly Hills 12.40m
9 Catchphrase 11.33m
10 Home and Away (Fri) 11.33m

Breakfast television: The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with figures in parentheses showing the reach - in millions) for at least three minutes.
BBC1: Breakfast Time: Mon to Fri 1.7m (10.2m)
BBC2: Breakfast Time: Mon to Fri 1.7m (10.2m)
ITV: Good Morning Britain: Mon to Fri 1.5m (13.1m)

Source: Broadcasters' Audience Research Board

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2072

ACROSS
1 Create (4)
2 Russian "kilometre" (5)
3 Laundry bowl (7)
4 Modern UAR (5)
5 Baby buff (4)
6 TV set award (4)
7 45 inch unit (3)
8 Descent of Man author (7)
9 Dreyer routine (3)
10 Horchally (4)
11 Oxford Thistles (4)
12 Young pigeon (5)
13 The (7)
14 Laminated resin (5)
15 Pair (4)

DOWN
1 Pre-pyramid tomb (7)
2 Old plane (4)
3 Common person (8)
4 Transport (climber) (5)
5 Study hard (4)
6 Lenin successor (6)
7 Unwelcome surprise (9)
8 In flight recorder (8)
9 Cadaver (6)
10 Cowboy film (7)

SOLUTION TO NO 2071
ACROSS: 1 Make believe. 9 Attache. 11 Lunge. 13 Nye. 15 Och. 16 Tuna. 17 Able. 18 Baby. 20 Kilo. 21 Satori. 22 Saff. 23 Web. 28 Above. 29 Advance. 30 Prudential.
DOWN: 2 Aric. 3 Eick. 4 Eden. 5 Idle. 6 Venturi. 7 Bay of Biscay. 8 Beantree. 12 Yellow. 14 Hay. 15 Karate. 19 Barbour. 24 Rondo. 25 West. 26 Bang. 27 Eve.

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET
COLLIERIES 8.30 3.161 of 340
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T.730 HANSEL & GRACE.

THE NUTCRACKER
T.730 100th Anniversary Gala
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LONG RUNNERS: ★ Cate New London Theatre (01-405 0072). ★ Lee Lissand Desdemona Theatre (01-836 6111). ★ Me and My Girl Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913). ★ The Miserable Palace Theatre (01-334 0809). ★ The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). ★ The Phantom of the Opera: His Majesty's Theatre (01-836 2244). ★ Run For Your Wife: Whitehall Theatre (01-857 7119). ★ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-826 8585).

OUT OF TOWN

BIDEFORD: ★ The Snow Queen: Orchard Theatre's touring Christmas show, recruiting local children to play. College Theatre, (0271 73356), today 10.30am, and 1.10pm, £3.50.

FILMS

★ **Also on national release**
★ **Advance booking possible**

★ **BACK TO THE FUTURE II (PG):** Over-ingenious sequel to the 1985 hit, with Michael J. Fox and Christopher Lloyd (108 min). Cannon Palace Road (01-370 2536). Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10, Late Fri, Sat 11.00. (Closed Sun).

★ **CANNON PALACE ROAD (01-370 2536):** Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10, Late Fri, Sat 11.00. (Closed Sun).

★ **THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE & HER LOVER (18):** Peter Greenaway's tale of love, revenge and haute cuisine. With Richard Bohringer (125 min). Screen on Baker Street (01-835 2772). Progs 3.10, 6.00, 8.35. (Closed Sun).

★ **DEAD POETS SOCIETY (PG):** Robin Williams as an English teacher who instils his pupils with a dangerous love of poetry (126 min). Notting Hill Cinema (01-727 8705). Progs 8.30pm (Closed Sun).

★ **ODEON KENSINGTON (01-802 5193):** Progs 11.45, 2.35, 5.30 (not Sun), 8.30 (not Sun). Late Fri, Sat 11.15. (Closed Sun).

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Pipped at the post

Andrew Shore plays the old hypocrite who is teased into marriage and out again in the title role of a new production of *Don Pasquale* for Opera North, which opens in Leeds tomorrow. Donizetti's *opera buffa*, with its three acts of marital intrigue and deception in the tradition of *commedia dell'arte*, is new to Opera North's repertoire, and arrives just in time to pip Covent Garden's February revival at the post. Patrick Mason, the director, makes his home debut. Most of his theatre work has been done in Ireland, at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, and at the Grand Opera, though visitors to Westfield will recognize him from last October's *La Dancena* and, earlier, *Basson's Turandot* there.

Donizetti set this, his last great comic opera, in 19th-century Rome: this production plans to juxtapose past and present, as stages of classical Rome act as a backdrop to the costumes and manners of 1990. David Lloyd-Jones conducts a cast which promises good value: Judith Howard as the young widow, Norina; Adrian Martin as her lover, Ernesto; and Robert Hayward as the scheming Dr Malatesta. Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 459351), 7.15-9.45pm, £5-21.

Hilary Finch

FIELD OF DREAMS (PG): Kevin Costner as a farmer encouraged by a celestial voice to use his cornfield for a baseball pitch (106 min). Cannon Palace Road (01-370 2536). Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10, Late Fri, Sat 11.00. (Closed Sun).

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Intrigue: Andrew Shore (left) and Robert Hayward (right) in rehearsal

★ **SEX, LIES AND VIDEOTAPE (18):** Steven Soderbergh's Cannes winner - a deliciously poised study of human deception and sexual frustrations. Narrated by James Spader and Andie MacDowell (105 min). Cannon Palace Road (01-370 2536). Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10, Late Fri, Sat 11.00. (Closed Sun).

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★ **CANNON PALACE ROAD (01**

TELEVISION & RADIO

**Compiled by Leslie Walton
and Gillian Maxey**

The bitter fruits of religion

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

● With a largely female cast and an all-female production team of writer Jeanette Winston, producer Philippa Giles and director Beeban Kidron, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* (BBC2, 9.25pm) should go some way towards stifling the criticism about lack of opportunity for women in television. Whether the result will be to universalise is another matter, since the piece touches centrally on the sensitive areas of religion and a lesbian relationship.



Bible-bashing: Geraldine McEwan (left) and Emily Aston (BBC2, 9.25pm)

adapted by Winston from her loosely autobiographical novel which won the 1985 Whitbread Prize, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* charts a young girl's childhood in Lancashire in the definitely unsungwinging 1960s. Little Jess grows up against the repressive background of puritan religion, dimmed into her by an adoptive mother who sees sin round every corner. Deprived of young company Jess is forced to tag along with Mother's bible-bashing cronies, among whom the 82-year-old Elsie is the nearest thing to a friend. Even school is likened to "the sink if I didn't put the bleach down it". If tonight's opening episode intends to make the same point rather too often, and also lapses into caricature, there are ample compensations. One is a revealing of humour with such priceless lines of dialogue as "You can tell a good woman by her sandwiches" and "You don't need an airing cupboard when you've got Jesus". The other delights are Geraldine McEwan's Lancashire maudlin, a precocious performance by young Emily Aston as Jess and a remarkably eccentric supporting cast which recalls the feminine contingent of *Last of the Summer Wine*.

It is ironic that a programme which raises questions about the regulation of television should itself fall foul of the Independent Broadcasting Authority. *Only Fools and Horses* (Channel 4, 11.10pm) was to have been transmitted in the autumn, but pulled out, and now appears in the evening with the warning that some viewers may find it shocking. The controversial item in a survey of alternative comedy on both sides of the Atlantic is a performance by an American stand-up comic whose outrageously racist and sexist material is beamed into million homes. The programme asks whether as television moves towards deregulation it could happen here and, if so, how far it should be censored.

BBC 1

6.00 *Ceeftax*
6.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with
Nicholas Witchell and Laurie Mayer.
Includes news headlines every 15
minutes, regular sports bulletins,
weather, regional news and
travel, and a look at the morning
papers with Paul Cullen 8.55
Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by
Open Air with Eamonn Holmes
and Irvine Yeving. To contribute ring
061 814 0424
9.20 *Kilroy*. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a
studio discussion on a topical subject
10.00 *Golden News* followed by
Get on for Gold (r)
10.25 *Children's BBC*, with Simon
Parkin, starts with *Playdays*. *The Dot
Stop* (r) 10.50 *Poddington Peas*.
Dump-Peas Diet (r)
10.55 *Five to Eleven* with Eileen Atkins
11.00 News and weather followed by
Open Air, including a report on the
London Boat Show
12.00 News and weather followed by
Daytime Live. Alan Titchmarsh and
Judi Spiers are joined by Sue
Kreitzman with her *Slim Cuisine*
12.55 *Regional News* and
weather
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Martyn
Lewis followed by *Weather* with John
Kettley
1.30 *Neighbours*. Mrs Mangel shocks
her son when she blames him for
ruining her life. At the summer
fête, Sharon decides to teach Mrs
Mangel a lesson. (Ceeftax)
1.50 *Going for Gold*. Quiz hosted by
Henry Kelly
2.15 *Knots Landing*. *To Sing His
Praise*. Emotions run high at
Joshua's funeral. Stars Joan Van
Ark and Ted Shackelford
3.00 *Primetime*. Shelia McClellon
talks to puppeteer Des Turner, and
Norm O'Callaghan reports on the
plight of imported cars
3.35 *Tom and Jerry Double Bill*.
Snowbody Loves Me/Puss 'n' Boots
3.50 *Children's BBC*, presented by
Andy Crusa, starts with *Dooby
Doo! Mac Mac Mac* and *The
Rupert and the Secret Boat* (r) 4.00
Mick and Mac. *Decorating*.
There's chaos in the bathroom 4.10
SuperTed. *Phantom of the Grand
Canyon* 4.20 *My Best Friend, A Kiss*,
narrated by Victoria Wood (r)
4.35 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles*.
The Incredible Shrinking Turkey.
The first of a four-part story. 5.00
Newsweek 5.15 *5-25 Neighbours*.
A chance to see the episode shown
earlier today. (Ceeftax)
6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Anna Ford
and Andrew Harvey, followed by
Weather with Suzanne Charlton
6.30 *Newsroom South East*
7.00 *Woman*
7.30 *Family Matters*. *Stars in Their
Eyes*. A documentary on the way
advertisers use children for film
commercials and catalogues. Bill
Hanrahan talks to the parents
who put their children through the
tough competition, rigorous
auditions and long working hours,
and asks whether the price of
fame and fortune is too high. A studio
discussion on the subject follows
8.00 *Deltax*. *Cry Me a River of Oil*. JR's
scheming ways lead to a very
dangerous financial waters; Cally
finds out about JR's meetings with
April Stevens; and Michele plays
on Cliff Barnes's vulnerability to win
back her with him. Stars Larry
Hagman, Patrick Duffy and Ken
Kernoval
8.30 *Points of View* with Anne
Robinson
9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Martyn
Lewis, followed by *Regional News*
and weather
9.30 *QED*. Sweet FA looks at the
predicament of victims of the fatal
spinal disease Friedrich's
Ataxia, and focuses on the plight of
Alan Jones, who has already lost
his brother and sister to the
hereditary illness. The
programme tells of his own physical
pain, and the unceasing search
for a cure in the face of limited
government backing
10.00 *Sportsnight*. Steve Hider
introduces the line-up featuring the
Britainweight boxing bout between
Bertie's Kirkland Laing and
America's Luis Soto. The first
two rounds in the quarter-final
of the Embassy world professional
darts championship. (Ceeftax)
2.10-12.15am *Weather*

FTV LONDON

6.00 TV-am starts with *News* and *Good Morning Britain*, presented by Richard Keys and from 7.00, by Michael Morris and Linda Mitchell. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. After Nine. Introduced by Kathy Taylor

9.25 *Lucky Ladies*. Word game with Larrie Benford

9.35 *Thames News* and *Weather*

10.00 *The Time ... The Place ...* Mike Scott and a studio audience discuss fortune-telling

10.40 *This Morning*. Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley are joined by agony aunt Denise and by Brian Thomas reports from Hollywood. Plus items on caring organizations and microwave cookery

10.55 *News Headlines* **11.55** *Regional News*

12.10 *Afternoon Picture Show*. Jiffy, Bonzo and Virginia paint their own pictures

12.30 *Home and Away*. Martin sets out to capture Roo's heart. Carly confesses her alcoholism but begs Cole to let people know she is not a drug addict

1.00 *News* at One followed by national weather

1.30 *Thames News* and weather, followed by *Crimewatch*

1.30 *Snooker*. Mercantile Credit Classic, with Tony Francis presenting the first of the quarter finals from Northwick Cassis, Blackpool

3.35 *Thames News* and weather

4.30 *Coronation Street*. A chance to see Monday's episode

4.00 *Children's ITV*, presented by Jeanne Downs, starts with *Wowser*. Mad Science. Wowser, a big shaggy dog with super powers, helps his master test his inventions **4.15** *Rolf's Cartoon Club*, presented by Rolf Harris **4.40** *Mr Majeika*. Fights for the Memory. Mr Majeika, the failed magician working as a schoolteacher in Britain, tries everything he can to get rid of a vegetarian vampire. Stars Stanley Baxter

5.10 *Blackpool*. Quiz, hosted by Bob Holness, for the 16- to 18-year-olds

5.40 *News* followed by national weather (Oracle)

5.50 *Home and Away*. A chance to see the episode shown earlier today

5.55 *Thames News* and *Weather*

6.30 *Thames Help*

7.00 *This Is Your Life*. Michael Aspel springs a surprise on another celebrity

7.30 *Coronation Street*. As solicitors take charge of Deirdre's separation from Ken, and emotions become entangled with money, Mike Baldwin sprightly offers to lend a strong shoulder to cry on. Meanwhile, back at the Rover's Return, Alec and Beth throw a birthday party for Sandra, and wonder how she will react to her new stepmother (Oracle)

8.00 *Inspector Morse*. The Rover's Return. The Radford brewing family is facing a takeover bid by a multinational when managing director Trevor Radford is murdered. It's a tense take-me-or-leave-me quaffer Inspector Morse (John Thaw). (Oracle)

8.00 *News* at Ten followed by national weather. (Oracle)

8.35 *Thames News* and *Weather*

9.30 *Snooker*. Mercantile Credit Classic. Tony Francis introduces coverage of the quarter-final action from Blackpool

10.00 *The Oldest Rookie*. *Internal Affairs* Affair. Lieutenant Zege's daughter asks the cops to help when her father is charged with drug offences and corruption

10.30 *Stories in the Night*. *Mediumship*. First in a new series, presented by Jack Stammers, looks at the paranormal. Tonight's programme investigates mediumship and communication with the spirit world

10.50 *News Headlines* followed by *Videofashion*. *The Star System*. A new series with an inside look at the world of designers and models

11.30 *America's Top 10*, with Casey Kasem

12.00 *Friday the 13th*. *The Inheritance*. Two cousins inherit an antique shop and find it has a curse on it. Stars John D. LeMay

12.00 *News Headlines* followed by *Sport*. *Skytrack*. Motor cars from Brands Hatch. Includes karting, sports and an air display

1.30 *Fifty Years On*. A look at what was making the news headlines in 1940

6.00 *ITN Morning News*. Ends at 6.00

BR

9.00 News 8.15 Westminster with Brian Curtis
9.00 Village School. *Autumn Term* (r)
9.30 Betjeman in Australia. Tasmania (r)
9.55 The Historians. *Breweries*. How the big brewers have wiped out many traditional public houses (r)
10.00 Laurel and Hardy (b/w). *Tit for Tat*
10.20 Film: Arizona Legion (1939, b/w), starring George O'Brien, Laraine Johnson and Carole Lombard. It's a coney forms a secret group of rangers pledged to bring Arizona's ruthless outlaws to justice. Directed by David Howard
10.20 Film: The Saint in London (1939, b/w), starring George Sanders, Sally Gray and David Burns. Simon Templar, alias the Saint, on the trail of an underground network involving currency fraud, murder and a London society girl. Directed by John Paddy Carstairs
10.30 Cape to Cairo. A journey by steam loco (r) **1.20** Bertha. *The Windmills* (r)
10.35 Look, Stranger. *Jimmy the One* (r)
10.40 News and weather followed by Country File. A report of a new method of making artificial peat and compost (r)
10.50 Darts. Embassy world professional championship highlights 3.00 and 3.50 News and Weather
10.50 Catchword with Paul Cola
10.50 Behind the Headlines with Beverly Hills
11.00 Talk of the 80s. Barry Norman talks to Charlton football star Garth Crooks, who is also chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association, about the future of the game (r)
11.00 Holiday 90 (r). (Ceebeak)
11.00 DEF It starts with The Invisible Man. The 1950s classic starring David McCallum (r) **6.50** Reportage. Music, fashion, sports and current affairs
11.40 Rapido. Start of a new series, with the always unreliable Antoine de Caunes. The programme includes David Byrne, Neil Young in concert, and film director Jacques Benoit talking about his new film *Rosetta and the Ravens*, which stars Isabel Pasco
11.10 Jailers. Documentary about the Newbold Prison Prison Service College training programme, and the daily routines of three young wardens stationed at different jails
11.00 M*A*S*H. *Goodbye Radar*. Facing its darkest hour, the 4077th unit attempts to call Radar back from leave in Tokyo (r)
11.25 Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit (see Choice)
11.30 Building Signs. Architect Nigel Coates talks about Chelsea football stadium's east stand, designed by Darbourne and Jerrie in 1972 (r)
11.30 Newswight with Jeremy Paxman
11.15 Weatherview
11.30 11.55pm Behind the Scenes. Another chance to see the programme shown earlier today

CHAN

7 The Channel Four Daily
25 The Art of Landscape. Visual images of the natural world and different kinds of music
30 The Parliament Programme, with Susan Cameron, 12.30
12-30 Business Daily, with Susannah Simons, 1.00
Sesame Street
10 The Carers. A Home for Clara. The first programme in this Open College series tells the story of a 91-year-old Clara Reed adjusted to living in an old people's home (r)
10 Genetics. The Goodman's Heresy. The investigation of the alternative lost version of Christianity continues with a look at the Cathars, gnostic heretics who flourished in 12th-century France until the Inquisition and the Albigensian Crusade (r)
10 King Lear's Unnatural Australian cartoon
10 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Men who pride themselves on tramping on others to get to the top
Countdown. Game show
10 Children's Choice Centuries. You Want a Coconut? How rich holidaymakers have disrupted the everyday life of the children of Unwauwau village in Sri Lanka (r)
10 Country Ways. Setsey in January. (Oracle)
10 Stamp of Greatness. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: The Man Who Was Sherlock Holmes. First in a series of profiles about six Scottish personalities who have appeared on foreign stamps (r)
10 A Different World. The Thing about Water. A couple goes off a date with Walter to see her former husband, and Walter becomes jealous (Oracle)
10 Channel 4 News. (Oracle)
10 Current followed by Weather
Brookside. Sinbad tries to warn Caroline off James (Oracle)
10 Dispatches. Topical issues
15 Fads Since 1978. Hosted by Gladys Jackson, Mona Washbourne and Trevor Howard. Vivid account of the claustrophobic world of poetess Sylvia Smith. Directed by Robert Enders
10 Signals. Only Joking. A look at the American trend towards "hot to shock" humour, described by the *New York Times* as "the comedy of hate"
10 Main Highway to Paradise. The last in the present series includes music from 5 Guys Named Mo, country star Randy Travis, and the first television appearance of the cult Scottish band Blue Nile. The programme also features comedy from Bruce Morton and filmed portraits of the five aye, and the biggest hen party in Glasgow
10 Jimmy Staccato. Double Feature/ The List of Death (b/w). In the first story, a double of Staccato is involved in a murder. In the second, a hurricane brings Staccato from Europe and contacts Staccato. Ends at 2.10

SATEL

SKY ONE

am Sky News 5.30 European
News Channel 6.30 The DJ Kat Show
Panel Post Pourn 10.00 The
ans 10.30 Sky Day 11.30 A
am Shared 12.00 Another World
am General House 1.50 As The
Turns 2.45 Loving 3.15 The
Dr Doctors 3.45 Captain Caveman 4.00
ic Man 4.30 The New Leave It To
er Show 5.00 Sky Star Search 6.00
low Price Is Right 6.30 Sale of the
er 7.00 Hey Dad 7.30 Mr Belvedere
Down Town 9.00 Falcon Crest
9.30 Jamison Tonight 11.00 Sky World
Tonight 11.30 Sara

SKY N

on the hour.

5:30am World Business Report **5:30**
6am News Business Channel **6:00** World
6:30am News Report **6:30** Frank Bough
7am BMTV Good Health **11:30** World
News Report 1:30pm NBC Today
Parliament Live 2:15 Question Time
3:30 Parliament Live **4:30** NBC
5:00 Live at Five **6:30** Beyond 2000
The Reporters **8:30** Frank Bough
Newsline **10:30** The Reporters **11:30**
Nightly News **12:30am** Frank
Bough **1:30** Newsline **2:30** The Reporters
Frank Bough **4:30** Newsline

SKY MC

8.00am The Satellite Shop
am All the Kids Do It (1985):
 Why take about drinking and driving
Guest: Episode 7 of The Australian
James Verne's Strange Holiday:
 Explores of a group of youngsters
 stranded on a desert island
Day One – Part One: Story of the
 to develop the atom bomb
Entertainment Tonight
Seah: On Dead Sea The
 nautical adventures of a failed suicide
 Harvest of Hate: A lawyer and a
 ologist are held prisoner by Arab terrorists
Angel Heart (1987): Supernatural
 story thriller, starring Mickey Rourke as
 m-at-heel private eye taking a case
Sam Cypher (Robert De Niro)
Sam Angel (1984): Story of a
 night's life on Hollywood Boulevard
 up the city's underworld
 through the progress of a college rat race.
 at 5.30am

EUROSA

ean World business Report **5.30**
 ean Business Channel **5.00** DJ Kat
5.30 Menu **6.00** Eurosport –
 A Year 10.00 Lissabon Football
 ament 11.00 Volleyball: Women's
 p Gala 12.00 Table Tennis: Stiga
 Priz Finals 1.00pm WWF
 stars of Wrestling 2.00 Best of the
 – Tennis: Lendl v McEnroe 3.00
 all 5.00 Fimboard Special 5.30
 Legends 6.00 Trans World Sport
 Table Tennis 8.00 Volleyball: Men's
 p Gala 9.00 Lissabon Football
 ament 10.00 Paris-Dakar Rally **10.15**
 p Football 11.15 Havoc 9
 eam Paris-Dakar Rally

MT

am Club MTV 6.00 Kristiane
or 10.30 At the Movies 11.00 Remote
ol 11.30 Kristiane Becker 1.00pm
l Vanhilt 4.00 3 from 1 4.15 Marcel
it 5.00 Remote Control 5.30 Club
3.00 Ray Cokes 8.00 At the Movies
US Top 20 10.00 Maiken Wexo
am Night Videos

SCREEN:

am Boxing 8.30 American
 Football 10.00 US College Basketball
 Ice Skating 12.15pm Ice Hockey
 US College Football 4.15 Spanish
 6.00 French Rugby League 7.30
 American Football 8.30 Golf 11.00
 12.30am Indoor Climbing

LIFESTYLE

Man Jake's Fitness Minute 10.01
for Tomorrow 10.25 Fashion Style
Wok with Yan 11.00 The Edge of
11.35 The Great American
shows 12.50 Open What's New
Sally Jessy Raphael 1.50 Skyways
Search for Tomorrow 3.05
Peak 3.15 The Detectives 4.05 Jack
upon Down Under 4.35 Lifestyle
4.45 The Great American Gameshows

Information on satellite TV
 movies is available in the weekly
 line, TV Guide.

RADIO

Stereo and MW
are on the half-hour from
9:00am until 6:00pm, then at
7:00, 8:30, 10:00pm
9:00am Jaiidi Brambles **6:30**
mon Mayo 8:30 Simon Bates
12:30pm Newsbeat **12:45**
Fri Davies 3:00 Steve Wright in
the Afternoon 5:30 News '90
6:00 Mark Goodier 7:30 This is
our Radio 1 **8:30** John Peel
10:00 Nicky Campbell **12:00**
- Saturday -

RADIO

[illegible]

WORLD SERV

[illegible]**RADIO 3**

Other and News

1.00pm Concert:
Swely (Marche Slav: SO under Stelinski);
Cincinnati: Cincinnati
or Jesus Lopez-

1.00pm Concert (cont):
(Jeux: Rotterdam
or Conlon); Chabrier
or Mozart (Diverimento
and Instruments, K
ends of the Berlin
and Ballet Suite,
Atlanta SO under

1.00pm Concert:
ers of the Week:
h. Concerto for two
D minor, BWV
Petite Danse, with
Kullien and Lucy
violine); Prelude
e in E minor, BWV
re-Chair Ann
e in E minor,
e (Gustav
rd, harpichord;
for two
ords in C, BWV
Orchestra, Royal
a under Ton
n, harpichord); The pianist
e Soler (Three
SO No 84 in D
No 85 in D flat
La vege; Liszt
an Rhapsody No 9
"Paster Carnival")
Orchestra and Dvorak
e of the CO
perform

1.00pm Concert
olism (Concert
Dances: Op 72 No
Op 48 No 6 in C
Op 44) (r)
e with Susan
Haydn (Symphony
D minor; Orpheus
Orchestra Poeme, Op
under Oleg Kamu);
e. The Third
leeping "The
and Truth"
ndamental Orchestra
ynya Darlow, with
Brett, and
ughan Williams
on Five "Three
Songs": Chok
College,
e, under
e. Serenade to
iginal Soloists,
under Henry
ravinovsky (Agon:
e Festival SO
concert);
e Krieger
SO, Nos 1-8: LPO
in Morris, with
r, contralto,
ars, baritone)

1.00pm News
1.00pm Concert Hall: Live
BBC Concert Hall,
Susan Kessler, me-
Roger Vignoles, pi-
peter Jensen (St
ist in Hochstadt); S
(Lied der Anne Ly
Zweiter Gesang);
J. Zumsteg (Karl
Schumann (Gedich
Königin Maria Stu-
(Für einen Osh)
e Meier der St
(Die Hochländer un
Weit, weit; Brahms
(Murrays Ermordun
Maxwell Gedies (r
Scotts Songs)

2.00pm Record Review (r)
3.10pm Vintage Years:
Orchestra, London
Offenbach (Overture
Bleue); Francaix
(Concertino: London
Symphonie Orchest
with Kathleen Law
Falla (Ritual Fire Di
smo amor); Lamas
Orchestra; Flower
and the Beast "M
Foye"; Chicago Sym
Orchestra); Debuss
(Premiere rapsodie
Orchestra; Petite au
French National Ra
Orchestra, with Gu
Darguin, clarinet)
Choral Evensong:
The College Chor
Cambridge
5.00pm The Folk-Song Vinyl
A.L. Pyle's selecti
world-wide field-rec
(r)
6.30pm (only for Pleasure
Royalty Station)
7.00pm News
7.05pm Third Ear with Rob
Hawson
7.30pm The Songs of the 18
Century under Fran
Brittany performs
(Overture, The Mar
Figaro; Symphony i
"Prague"); Beethove
Symphony No 2 in
F# "Brucato"; T
Anton Chekov: A
Cobbler and the De
Translated by Cons
Garnet and read by
Hawson
8.00pm Benno conducts
Sintonietto, led by M
Lidell, with Aldo Bi
vols, Thomas Ham
performers, Barrie
Chansons néo-rom
Berio (Requies - né
Mahler, ar Berio (F
songs).
10.15pm Spectrum: With Col
Dr Martin Thomas
11.00pm Composers of the
Berio (r)
12.00pm News
12.05pm Close

DI

1.00 (s) **Steno on File**
5.55pm Shipping Forecast **6.00**
News Briefing: Weather
6.10 Farming Today 6.25
Prayer for the Day (s) 6.30
Today, with Sue McGregor
and Brian Redhead, incl
6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00,
8.30 News 8.55, 7.55
Weather 8.58 **Interviews**
in Parliament 8.57 **Weather**
9.00 News
9.05 **Midweek with Libby Purves**

10.00 News: Gardeners' Question
Time from Swanses (r)

10.30 **Morning Story: The**
Description, by **Enslowe**
Pitzgerald. Read by John
Moffat (r)

10.45 **Relay Service: From Atlantic**
Coast, St. Don's. Led by
Chris Morgan (s)

11.00 News: The Wednesday
Feature: Geordies. Part 1:
Unfinished Business.
Starring Michael Hordern as
Sir Edward Elgar. Rosalie
Crutchley as Magdalena von
Sachsen, Rosalind Wisen as
Milly Air and Maurice
Darmann as the Rev Miles
Moss (see Choice)

11.47 **One Night at the Opera:**
James Mason stars his
love of opera with Monty
Hallrecht

12.00 News: You and Yours with
John Howard

12.25pm **Out of Order: Patrick**
Herman chairs a light-
hearted political quiz. The
two teams are captained by
John's Austin Mitchell and
Martin Critchley (s) 12.55
Weather

1.00 **The World at One with**
James Naughtie

1.40 **The Archers (r) 1.55**
Shipping Forecast

2.00 News: The Warm-Up Show:
Includes interviews with
actor Martin Shaw, whose
latest film is *Ladder of*
***Swords*; and Clare**
Middleton, director of the
Book Marketing Council; and
a feature on private
fostering

3.00 News: The Warm-Up Marc:
A comedy by Simon Booker.
With Michael Williams as
William Bell (s)

3.47 **Time For Verse: George**
Macbeth interviews poet
Peter Porter about his life
and poetry. The second of
the programme's recordings
at the Salisbury Festival (s)
1.4

4.00 News

4.05 **File On 4 with reporter**
Helen Boswell (r)

4.55pm **Radio 1: 1053kHz/228**
London area: 104.9.1 Radio 2: 835
90.2 Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; FM 90.2
92.4-94.6. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97
35.8. Greater London Radio: 1458kHz/20
648kHz/403m.


RADIO 4

18 Kaleidoscope Extra: Paul Allen discusses the English language with, amongst others, Hermione Lee, Robert Burchfield, Marina Warner and Michael Powell, based on the book, *State of the Language*, by Christopher Ricks and Leonard Michaels (**s**)
6.00 PM with Frances Cordvale and Hugh Sykes **5.90 Shipping Forecast 5.55**
6.00 O'Clock News: Financial Report
7.00 Screenplay: Isiah Johnston on the celebrity movie panel game, With Dan Voughn, Maurice Denham, Angela Douglas and Robin Ser (**r**)
7.00 News
7.00 The Archers
7.00 Face the Facts with John Watts
7.00 Medicine Now with Geoff Watts (**r**)
7.00 Classics Apart (new series): Three sets comparative lives and fortunes of three families (**r**)
7.00 Shakespeare at the RSC (new series): Artists involved in the recent successful production of *The Tempest* talk about the project. Compiled and presented by Linda Jackson (**s**)
Kaleidoscope: Presented by Natalie Wynn. Includes reviews of Marguerite Duras's book *Fractals*; *Stories From an Execution* by Michel Leiris; London; and the films *Rosalia Goes Shopping* and *American Stories* (**s**)
The Financial World Tonight
7.00 The Weather
7.00 The Nightingale with Alexander MacLeod (**s**)
A Book at Bedtime: Lady Chatterley's Lover, by D.H. Lawrence (8 of 15)
Songs and Lowerdown: Part 2: Who said No? to Red?
Who? Robert Cushman with a six-part personal view of New York, cabaret and American popular song (**s**)
World Service 12.00-12.30 **Weather** 12.33 **Shipping Forecast**
LW except:
6.00 PM for Schools
6.00 FM for Schools **5.50-5.55 pm** 12.30-1.10pm Night
10.00chz/2r/3m:FM-97.8-99.8,
10.00chz/2r/3m:FM-97.8-99.8,
10.00chz/2r/3m:FM-97.8-99.8,
Capital: 1548chz/151sm:FM
FM 94.9; World Service: MW

CHOICE [


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4, 11.00am)

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**AFTER
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PRICES**



2

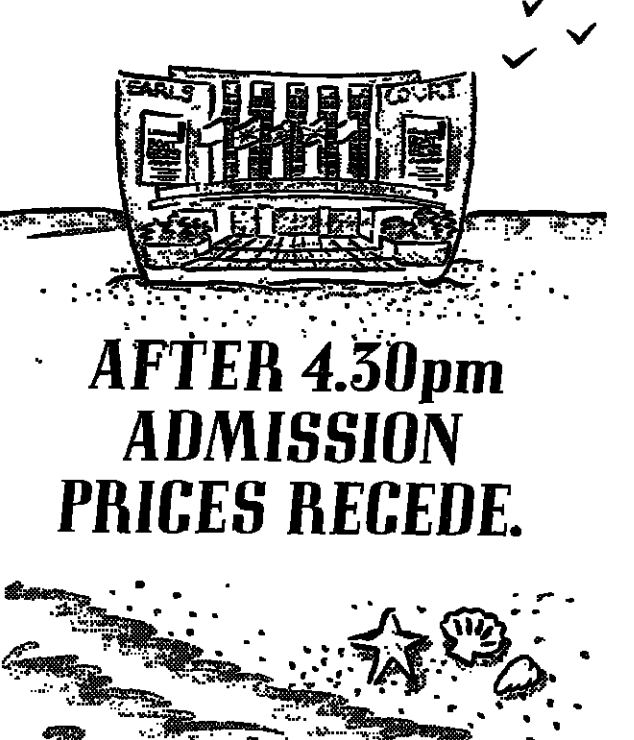
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**36th D
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**4th-14th
OPEN I**

Step off the earth

**Weekdays 10.00 am-5.00 pm
9-14 January - Adults £4.50
when accompanied by a
9-12 is**



After you come to the London Boat Show after 4.30 from 8-12 January, you will have lots of time to explore all the superb and exciting stands and displays, but for lots less than the daytime price.

**36TH INTERNATIONAL
LONDON
BOAT
SHOW**

EARLS COURT

4th-14th JANUARY

OPEN 10.00am-8.00pm

Step off the earth for a while.

 **British
Marine
INDUSTRIES
FEDERATION**

**Weekdays 10.00 am - 8.00 pm. Weekends 10.00 am - 7.00 pm. Admission
9-14 January - Adults £4.00, up to two CHILDREN FREE (under 16 and
when accompanied by an adult). Reduced Admission after 4.30 pm
9-13 January - Adults £3.00.**

● BUSINESS & FINANCE 25-32
● SPORT 42-46

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6535 (+0.0005)

W German mark
2.7803 (+0.0231)

Exchange Index
87.8 (+0.6)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1956.5 (+11.5)

FT-SE 100
2436.3 (+5.0)

USM (Datastream)
157.63 (+0.57)

Market report, page 29

Anglian to have talks with French

Anglian Water is to have talks in March with Compagnie Lyonnaise des Eaux, which bought 9 per cent of its shares just after the flotation. The talks will centre on joint ventures and co-operation. Anglian would only be interested in projects that made use of Anglian's expertise and where there was genuine participation and collaboration. This could include solid-waste disposal, like the ventures set up by Saur, another French group.

Temps, page 26

Parkfield jump

Parkfield, the foundry and video distribution group, reports a 103 per cent rise in taxable profits to £13.9 million in the six months to October, on sales 27 per cent up at £168 million. Earnings were 79 per cent higher at 17.7p and the interim dividend goes up two-thirds to 5p.

Temps, page 26

STOCK MARKETS

New York:	
Dow Jones	2795.22 (+0.85)
Nikkei Average	3781.46 (+943.50)
Hong Kong:	
Hong Kong	2822.16 (+5.92)
Singapore:	
Singapore	1118.9 (+1.9)
Sydney:	
Sydney	1690.7 (-9.1)
Frankfurt:	
Frankfurt	1866.94 (+22.70)
London:	
General	6584.14 (+10.31)
Peric: CAC	545.1 (-3.1)
Zurich:	
Zurich	629.2 (+3.4)
Leeds:	
FT-A All Share	1218.02 (+2.22)
FT-100	1329.38 (+3.51)
FT-1000	318.1 (+0.5)
FT-10000	32.8 (-0.08)
FT-100000	33.97 (-0.21)
Recent Issues	
Closing prices	Page 29
Share prices	Page 31

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Assoc. Henricus	1309p (+10p)
Cardover	287p (+10p)
Delta	440p (+11p)
M&G	440p (+11p)
Borland	737p (+35p)
Church	410p (+30p)
Grand Mart	630p (+11p)
Davies & Newman	750p (+25p)
P&O	651p (+14p)
Ward Holdings	95p (+13p)
Yorkshire Clean	365p (+12p)
Eurotunnel Units	682p (+20p)
FALLS:	
Silvermines	1054p (-12p)
Cable & Wireless	571p (-12p)
Body Shop	618p (-18p)
Anglo Group	317p (-12p)
Greyco	457p (-11p)
Thomson Corp	855p (-10p)
Higgs & Hill	421p (-12p)
Royal	538p (-10p)
Closing prices	3098
SEAO Volume	565.8m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base:	15%
3-month interbank	15% 15 1/2%
3-month prime rate	14% 14 1/2%
US Prime Rate	10%
3-month Treasury Bill	7.54-7.52%
30-year bonds	100 1/2-100 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London:		New York:	
£/\$	1.6535	\$/£	60.48
£/DM	2.7803	DM/£	35.97
£/Sfr	2.2041	Sfr/£	45.36
£/FF	47.21	FF/£	136.03
£/Yen	145.20	Yen/£	688.55
£/Escudo	200.48	Escudo/£	200.48
£/Lira	333.33	Lira/£	333.33
£/Pound	1.0000	Pound/£	1.0000
£/Euro	1.3663	Euro/£	1.3663

GOLD

London:		New York:	
AM \$402.70	pm \$403.45		
close \$403.50-404.00	(243.75-444.25)		
New York:			
Comex \$403.50-404.10			

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) ...	\$20.20 bid (\$20.75)
* Denotes latest trading price	

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank	Bank
	Buys	Sells	Sells
Australia \$	2.15	2.25	
Canada \$	1.12	1.15	
Denmark Kr	1.12	1.15	
France F	6.54	6.54	
Germany M	3.36	3.36	
Italy L	1.36	1.36	
Japan Yen	163.60	163.60	
Netherlands Gld	2.20	2.20	
Portugal Esc	204.80	204.80	
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64	
Sweden Kron	4.66	4.66	
Switzerland Fr	2.00	2.00	
UK Lira	333.33	333.33	
Yugoslavia Dnr	136.37	136.37	

Guerin makes reappearance in legal action

By Angela Mackay

Mr James Guerin, the elusive former deputy chairman of Ferranti International, the defence and electronics group, appeared at a Pennsylvania lawyer's office yesterday to give evidence in camera during a severance pay dispute.

It is the first time Mr Guerin has been seen publicly since the British company revealed the extent of its problems in September.

Mr Guerin is the founder of ISC - the subsidiary of Ferranti at heart of the £215 million fraud - which merged with Ferranti in 1987.

He resigned from the board last May and sold his 32 million shares in the company soon after.

There had been some speculation that the Serious Fraud Office and US authorities might have taken the opportunity provided by Mr

Guerin's appearance to take further legal action. However, SFO sources dismissed the talk.

Mr Guerin, three others and five companies have already been served with writs in an attempt to claim \$197 million (£119 million) of the lost cash.

A spokesman for the SFO said: "Inquiries are proceeding with all due diligence with the full co-operation of the American authorities."

It is believed the SFO, along with its fellow investigators in the US - including the US attorney's office, the FBI, the defence department and customs - have known the whereabouts of Mr Guerin all the time and were confident that he could be found at short notice.

Mr Guerin, who appeared relaxed and smiling yesterday, refused to comment when he entered the office.

Mr William Clark, Mr Guerin's former senior legal advisor at ISC, is suing for \$1.75

million (£1.06 million) which he claims is outstanding from a \$2.75 million employment contract.

The money is deposited with the court and unless Mr Guerin appeared he would forfeit the cash.

Mr Guerin's lawyers had argued the questioning should be limited to the pay dispute and should not be allowed to explore matters under criminal investigation by British and US authorities.

Mr Guerin is not only being investigated for his alleged role in the Ferranti fraud. US federal officials are believed to be looking at ISC sales of defence electronics to South Africa and other countries for possible violation of export laws.

However, the judge accepted Mr Clark's case that all these matters were important because they related to his state of mind when he signed the contract.

Mr Guerin has contended that Mr Clark used extortion and coercion to obtain the severance deal, and that he broke a secrecy provision which rendered the deal void.

Mr Clark denied extortion and counter-claimed that it is a sound agreement to compensate him for unfulfilled financial promises.

Yesterday's proceedings at the offices of Mr Clark's lawyer allowed him to question Mr Guerin about the facts behind his charges before Judge Georgalis.

Meanwhile, Thomson-CSF, the French group which is Ferranti's remaining suitor, will decide this week whether to make a full or partial offer for the British group.

However, it is unlikely a deal can be stitched up before the company must give notice to shareholders that a £187 million rights issue will proceed to top up its capital.

Ferranti has also retained a firm of head-hunters to find not only a new chairman but also a chief executive. At the moment, both roles are filled by Sir Derek Alton-Jones. Sir Derek has, with the support of his board, resisted several calls for his resignation.

Yesterday, Ferranti ended 3p higher at 35p, based on slim turnover.

A Reynolds portrait



By Stephen Leather and Angela Mackay

The father of Texas investor Mr Jeff Reynolds yesterday defended his son's ability to take control of Mr Alan Bond's troubled Bond Corporation.

As the financial world searched for details of Mr Reynolds, aged 28, his father, Mr L. George Reynolds, said that he had a rich and powerful friend who was a member of the Saudi royal family.

Mr Reynolds Senior said his son had conducted many highly profitable business deals involving Muslim countries. "You know the Sultan of Brunei, they've done a lot of deals with him," he said from

his Dallas home.

He added: "I would guess that most of the help (for the Bond deal) is going to originate either from people in Singapore or in Hong Kong."

The proposed bid through Mr Reynolds's Singapore-based California Pacific International Holdings and its US offshoot, Weatherly Investments, has left financiers scratching around for details of the unknown financier.

But his father said young Mr Reynolds started as an entrepreneur when he was a teenager selling import rights for luxury cars and made a fortune in European arbitrage deals.

Meanwhile, an Australian court yesterday heard how two

banks had been prepared to stand by Mr Bond.

The Victorian Supreme Court was told that Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp and Societe Generale, part of a bank syndicate which lent

more than \$700 million to Bond Corp Holdings Ltd's Australian breweries, opposed the move to appoint receiver-managers to the breweries. Bond Corp is fighting in court to overturn the appointment.

Mr Bond's Castlemaine XXXX and Swan light lager brands in the UK under licence confirmed it was still in negotiations to try to buy general ownership of the brands in UK and Europe.

Bankers fix new deal on tunnel

By John Bell, City Editor

Eurotunnel has been given a three-month breathing space and access to a further £250 million of funds by its bankers. The deal, hammered out in London yesterday, allows work on the cross-Channel link to continue while agreements on a further £1.2 billion of funds to complete the work are being finalized.

Eurotunnel's British co-chairman, Mr Alastair Morton, imposed a news blackout on details of discussions with bankers at its London headquarters yesterday. But it is understood that the bankers left with details of a complex outline agreement between Eurotunnel and Transmanche Link, the 10-strong Anglo-French consortium of construction companies building the tunnel.

The two dozen bankers at yesterday's meeting will consult the rest of the 208 banks involved in Eurotunnel's financing. Barring hitches, details of the agreement will be released tomorrow.

Technically, Eurotunnel has been in breach of its loan agreements for some time, but has been allowed to draw down funds to let work continue through January. Yesterday's outline agreement paves the way for a financing package of loans and equity to cover cost over-runs that have been the source of dispute between Eurotunnel and TML since the middle of last year.

Eurotunnel shares leapt 20p to 683p on expectations that the funding problems are almost over.

It appears likely that both TML and Eurotunnel have been forced to make painful concessions in order to keep the project on track. And Eurotunnel's bankers are expected to drive a hard bargain over the terms of the additional loan finance, thought to be around £800 million.

Initial finance was provided at 1 1/4 per cent over base rate. Some analysts say that the banks will seek a greater spread for the next tranche of loans to compensate for extra risks after cost over-runs. The banks may press for renegotiation of the original loans as part of the price for rescuing the project.

They may also seek an early rights issue.

Eurotunnel has remained firm on its estimate, made last autumn, that an extra £1.2 billion of new finance would be sufficient to complete the project, raising the total cost to around £7.2 billion.

Pound gains further ground as mark and yen deteriorate

By Colin Narborough, Economics Correspondent

The pound gained more ground against the leading world currencies yesterday as political jitters in Japan sent the yen tumbling, and the mark fell on profit-taking and comments from Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president.

Buoyed by market expectations that UK interest rates will stay high, and firmer oil prices of the past month, the pound climbed 2.3 pence to close at DM2.7804 and jumped nearly two yen to a 240.08 yen finish - its highest for over two years.

Despite the falling West German and Japanese currencies, which allowed the dollar to stage a comeback, the pound managed a small advance against the US unit to close at 1.6535.

On its Bank of England trade-weighted index, sterling ended 0.6 higher at 87.8, building on Monday's 0.2

point gain. In money markets, the benchmark three-month interbank lending rate was unchanged.

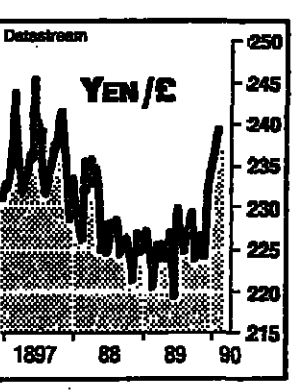
Remarks from the Bundesbank president, which appeared to rule out any early full realignment of the European Monetary System parties, combined with fears that reform in East Germany might be slowing, to give foreign exchange markets an

excuse for a bout of profit taking on the mark.

The dollar broke above the psychologically important DM1.68 level and managed to end in Europe a pence higher the previous day, though analysts still anticipate the mark to show its teeth again soon.

Herr Pöhl, speaking after a meeting of central bankers in the Swiss city of Basel, said a further realignment of the EMS after Italy's devaluation of the lire late Friday, was not on the agenda.

Earlier, the Bank of Japan stepped in to the Tokyo market to keep the dollar below 145 yen after weakness sparked by rumours of a renewed share-dealing scandal involving Japanese politicians. The Japanese central bank attempted to keep the dollar below 145 yen. However, in spite of intervention the yen fell to its lowest against the mark for six years.



Currency service for Abbey

By Lindsay Cook

Family Money Editor Abbey National, the building society which last year became a bank, has added a foreign currency service for its instant access account customers.

Any of the popular foreign currencies can be ordered through any branch by customers who hold instant access accounts such as the cheque account, Five Star or Saver account.

Abbey today launches a mortgage scheme for the 8,000 people it estimates will build their own homes during 1990. The loans are at the Abbey's standard rate of 14.5 per cent for mortgages up to £60,000 and 13.9 per cent above.

Abbey is to purchase the French mortgage company Ficofrance. The company, which has £400 million in mortgages on its books, is part of Group Maison Familiale and is likely to cost about £40 million.

Dismissal claims prompt complaint to Takeover Panel

Non-disclosure dispute in LI bid

By Martin Waller

As shareholders in Bear Brand meet today to approve its agreed all-shares offer to acquire Leisure Investments, the troubled healthcare-to-leisure group which owns Lingfield racecourse, a dispute has broken out over alleged non-disclosure of material facts in its offer document.

Mr Joseph Grunpeter, a former director of Aspinall Curzon, the casino group acquired late in 1988 with Mr Peter de Savary's LandLeisure, says he is suing LI for £600,000 for wrongful dismissal. Two claims by other former board members bring the total of outstanding claims to almost £1.8 million.

The company's broker says the claims are being strongly resisted and even if

successful are not likely to result in material damages.

Mr Grunpeter has complained to the City Panel on Takeovers and Mergers that information on the claims is material to Leisure Investments' fortunes and should have been disclosed.

Details of two other quite separate legal actions involving LI are included in the offer document, one for the equivalent of £1.75 million.

His complaint comes, he says, after letters on the subject to the two companies were ignored.

A spokesman for UBS-Phillips & Drew, LI's merchant bank, said the company's directors had taken the view that the claims "are not material in the

context of the group and therefore are not required to be disclosed.

Even if the claims were successful, which is the subject of strong dispute, the measure of damages claimed is, in the view of the directors and their legal advisers, "excessive".

Today is also the final closing date for the offer.

At last night's market close, shares in Leisure Investments were standing at 25p - 5p lower than the value of the three-for-one shares package on offer from Bear Brand.

There has been market speculation about a counter-bid from a British property company, attracted by the value of LI's property assets.

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Really Useful on track for buyout

By Martin Waller

Plans for a management buyout at the Really Useful Group, the stock market vehicle of Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer, where Mr Robert Maxwell has a 14.5 per cent holding, could be published by the end of this month.

The directors announced their intention to take the company private in November but the silence since has prompted suggestions that their plans might have met a hitch.

However, Mr Robert Kretowicz, a director of Salomon Brothers International, the merchant bank advising the management, said the buyout was "progressing slowly but surely." Neither he nor the company would comment on the delay. But it is understood a complicating factor was the Maxwell holding. The publisher is thought to have wanted to continue as an active partner of Mr Lloyd Webber once the company had gone private again but to have been opposed by the board.

Another complication was the departure of Mr Peter Jay, Mr Maxwell's former lieutenant who had been leading the negotiations, to the BBC.

Mr Kretowicz said: "I remain, as of this afternoon, optimistic. There's no particular sticking point."

TSB '£60m' for defaults

TSB is set to announce a £60 million provision against defaults from local authorities in preliminary figures tomorrow. TSB has one of the largest exposures to Hammersmith & Fulham Council, which is currently not honouring many swap transactions.

Pre-tax profits for the year to end-October are put at £180 million.

Countryside code pays off

Countryside Properties' shares were up and running yesterday, despite the depression overhauling the property development and housebuilding market.

But then Countryside has a reputation of growth to live up to, and yesterday aptly demonstrated that, having notched up its ninth successive year of profits growth, the management is now going for its tenth.

Pre-tax profits of £20.3 million for the year ended September 30, against £19.25 million, may well be the least impressive percentage improvement Countryside has achieved in a number of years.

And with a final dividend raised from 2.15p to 2.7p a share, making 4p (3.15p) for the year, Countryside remains a runner for an entry in the Guinness Book of Records with a 9.22 times cover.

The asset backing also remains solid. The nimble-footed scaling down of residential development to concentrate heavily on commercial property speaks volumes for Countryside's ability to come through another difficult year.

Trading profits within the residential division fell by 34 per cent to £13.8 million, but were offset by a jump from £2.4 million to £11.1 million in trading profits from the commercial side.

The number of houses built and handed over last year was 605, rather than the 750 forecast, of which 220 were owner occupied. This year, 600 house units are planned, with 800 a target number over the next four years.

Meanwhile, land bank buying opportunities abound and Countryside holds land with planning permission for 2,800 homes. There are also options on various sites for a further 6,500 homes, and a number of commercial developments are in hand.

Profits growth could again be slow this year, possibly



Supplying little reason for market fizz: Anglian's Semple and Welsh Water's Elfed Jones

Anglian Water/Welsh Water

Since flotation, the £1 partly paid water shares have risen an average 60 per cent, cutting the prospective dividend yield from a weighted average 8.55 per cent to 6.8 per cent.

About 16 points of the average 25 per cent premium on the fully paid shares is accounted for by the rise in the share index since the sale terms were set. Ultra-safe pricing explains the rest.

Welsh Water, which has a unique permanent golden share, has kept up with the pack, rising a further 3p to 161p on yesterday's interim results. This suggests that the flurry of French stake buying and heightened eventual bid

prospects account for less than 10p in most cases. But there is fizz in the sector and the City is looking for something to justify it. Now that three of the 10 companies have reported since flotation, their somewhat academic interim results to end-September supply little.

Mr John Elfed Jones, chairman of Welsh, did his best with a renewed prediction that 15 per cent of Welsh Water's profits will come from outside the core business within 5 years.

Mr Andrew Semple, Anglian's managing director, was understandably more defensive in the face of the 9 per cent Lyonaise stake. Anglian has the longest period of built in growth from its investment programme of any authority and has consistently played down diversification.

But the City should not demand hyperactivity. The key to water shares is that the core business can generate steadily rising real dividends - at more than 4 per cent a

year in the case of both Anglian and Welsh - for the next decade. The companies still distance themselves from the projections leaked at the Labour Party conference but are now happy to accept them. Anglian's dividends could take a little while to build up because 1990-91 earnings will be flat and initial cover is a below-average 2.3 times. Welsh still yields an above-average 7.4 per cent (against Anglian's 6.8 per cent) and has bought in more engineering expertise, this may improve its relative status.

The bad news is that the risks of the much-expanded investment programmes are only just starting.

Parkfield

Mr Roger Felber, Parkfield's executive chairman, is somewhat miffed at the new year press coverage of the best performing companies of the

eighties. Parkfield had not been floated at the start of the decade and so was omitted from most league tables.

If the clock had started in 1983, the year he took the helm, he reckons Parkfield would have been top of the list. He has turned the then-struggling USM foundry group worth less than £300,000 into a company with a market capitalization approaching £300 million. This has mostly been due to an astonishing increase in Parkfield's share price, from the equivalent of 2p when he took over to 510p at present.

Mr Felber is also proud that this growth was not achieved by progressing to ever larger acquisitions - though there have been plenty of lesser ones. Parkfield aims to be a market leader in fields where most of its competitors are smaller.

After pulling out of distribution of electrical goods and plumbers' fittings, Parkfield's sales by the end of this year will split roughly evenly between engineering and entertainment. The former comprises the manufacture of aluminium and steel vehicle wheels, vehicle chassis and heavy castings. The latter takes in the distribution of pre-recorded videos and the assembly and installation of satellite dishes for Sky television among others.

The proof of such a financially driven pudding is in earnings growth. Having risen from 2p in 1984-85 to 34p last year, the 79 per cent rise to 17.7p in the six months to October, on doubled profits of £13.9 million before tax, was not exceptional by Parkfield's standards.

Analysts are expecting £33.5 million before tax in the full year and earnings of 43½p, implying a prospective p/e ratio of 12. That is not excessive given the record, but the perennial concern with conglomerates is whether the future will resemble the past.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Extra 150m barrels in Ninian oilfield

Oryx Energy reports that its largest oilfield, the Chevron-operated Ninian field 100 miles from Aberdeen, is now thought to contain up to 150 million more barrels of recoverable oil than estimated, and recoverable reserves 9 per cent more than estimated.

Ninian has produced 850 million barrels of oil from 71 wells and it is now thought eventual production could be more than 1.2 billion barrels. Chevron operates the field but Oryx is the biggest shareholder with 21.4 per cent. Enterprise Oil has 18.5 per cent, Lamsco 17.3 per cent, Chevron 17.1 per cent, Ranger Oil 11.5 per cent, Murphy Oil 7.1 per cent and Ocean Oil 7.1 per cent.

Steetley buys BP to sell oil licence stakes

Steetley, the building materials group, has bought two oil licences in the south of England to Edinburgh Oil & Gas, Edinburgh is acquiring a 75 per cent interest in licence PL 116b, where the Humble Grove field and Herford, its satellite, produce 100 barrels of oil per day. It has also bought 10 per cent of PL 111, where the Horndean field produces 150 bpd.

Drax job lifts Howden

Howden Group, the engineer, boosted by a £20 million Drax power station order, enjoyed a 32 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £7.07 million in its half year to October. Mr Johnny Johnson, chairman, said that the order was by Howden Stirocco for boiler fans and heaters for the fine gas desulfurization programme at Drax Power Station, Yorkshire, was a welcome sign of an upturn in the UK power generation equipment business. Talking in tunnel boring and defence interests, group turnover improved by more than £30 million to £126 million. The interim dividend rises 12 per cent to 1.59p. Earnings per share grew by a fifth to 4.5p.

Hawtin slips to £1.15m

Hawtin, the Cardiff distribution and property company, saw pre-tax profits slip from £1.3 million to £1.15 million in the year to end-September, on turnover reduced from £24.1 million to £22.8 million. Earnings per share fell from 1.51p to 1.15p. However, an improved final dividend of 0.75p compares with 0.5p last time, payable April 6. The shares lost 1p to 25½p.

Barlo slumps into the red

Barlo, the Irish heating group, has been hit by the mild weather and reports a pre-tax loss of £1.2 million (£1.15 million) for the six months to September against a £170,000 profit. No interim dividend will be paid (1.25p) and Mr Aidan Barlow, the chairman, expects losses to reach £1.2 million by the end of the current year. The loss per share was 3.62p (1.81p eps).

WELSH WATER PLC

Results for the half year to 30th September 1989

Chairman's Statement

I am pleased to report a pre-tax profit on ordinary activities of £18.4 million on a turnover of £128.9 million for the six months ended 30th September 1989. Subject to no unforeseen circumstances arising we are well on target to achieve the full year profit forecast of £35.5 million for the year to 31st March 1990, before taxation and extraordinary items, and to recommend a single dividend, payable in October 1990, of 11.17p per Ordinary Share. No interim dividend is proposed for the six months to 30th September 1989.

This period has seen major changes in the water industry. In July 1989 the Water Act 1989 received Royal Assent, and on 1st September 1989 the functions of the Welsh Water Authority relating to water supply and sewerage services were transferred to Dŵr Cymru Cyfyngedig, a wholly owned subsidiary of Welsh Water PLC.

On 22nd November 1989 shares in Welsh Water PLC were offered for sale by the Secretary of State for Wales and I would extend a very warm welcome to those who have become shareholders in the Company.

I believe that we are well prepared for the opportunities offered by the private sector and that Welsh Water PLC will succeed through strong and effective management of the water supply and sewerage services business allied to a strategy of related diversification through organic growth, acquisition and joint venture.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to Welsh Water's employees. Their unfailing commitment and enthusiasm in the period leading up to flotation enables us all to look forward to the future with confidence.

John Elfed Jones, CBE, DL
Chairman

UNAUDITED GROUP RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1989

	Six Months Ended 30th September 1989	Notes
TURNOVER	2	128.9
OPERATING PROFIT		43.5
Other Income		0.3
Profit Before Interest		43.8
Net Interest Payable		(25.4)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE AND AFTER TAXATION	5	18.4
Extraordinary Items	4	(3.4)
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS		15.0

2. Turnover for the six months ended 30th September 1989 includes the financial effects of the transitional arrangements with the National Rivers Authority for the five months to 31st August 1989.

PRO FORMA EARNINGS

Pro forma profit on ordinary activities after taxation £55.1M
Pro forma earnings per Ordinary Share 38.2p
Pro forma profit on ordinary activities after taxation by the 144.1 million Ordinary Shares in issue since 20th November 1989. Pro forma profit on ordinary activities after taxation has been calculated by making an adjustment to interest of £42.0 million on a basis that the new capital structure had been in place since 1st April 1989 and by excluding the pro forma taxation charge of £3.3 million (note 5).

Actual earnings per Ordinary Share has not been presented as the number of shares in issue during the six months ended 30th September 1989 and the actual profits for that period are not considered to be representative of the group's position following implementation of the new capital structure.

EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS

Extraordinary items comprise privatisation and restructuring costs.

3. TAXATION Prior to vesting on 1st September 1989, Welsh Water Authority was exempt from UK income, corporation and capital gains taxes on all income and chargeable gains. Until such time as a liability to mainstream corporation tax or deferred tax arises, it is expected that the only tax charge to the profit and loss account will be the write off of irrecoverable advance corporation tax.

In computing pro forma earnings, the pro forma taxation charge has been derived by applying the estimated effective rate of tax as a proportion of profits for the year ending 31st March 1990 (based on the pro forma forecast contained in the prospectus) to the interim results.

Notes
1. BASIS OF PREPARATION
The Group results, which are unaudited, for the six months ended 30th September 1989 for Welsh Water PLC have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out in the prospectus dated 22nd November 1989 containing Listing Particulars of Welsh Water PLC and are consistent with the accounting policies adopted for the year ended 31st March 1989.
Results for the six months ended 30th September 1989 have not been presented. The Directors believe that comparison with this prior period would not be meaningful in view of changes during the current year in capital structure and regulation and other costs associated with the Company's new status as a listed plc.
The financial information contained in this interim statement does not amount to full accounts within the meaning of Section 254 of the Companies Act 1985.

Kunick aiming to expand after profits climb 67%

By Gillian Bowditch

Kunick, the leisure and healthcare group, expects to add £1 million to pre-tax profits this year as the result of the gambling stake on fruit machines doubling to 20p this month.

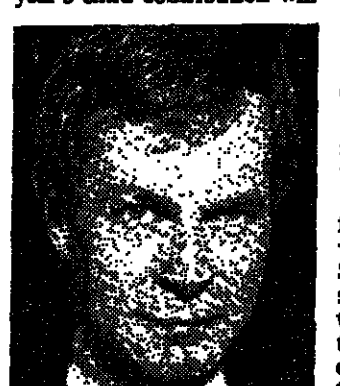
The company, which has 42,000 juke boxes and fruit machines, saw pre-tax profits jump 67 per cent to £8.5 million for the year to September on turnover up 41 per cent to £57.6 million. Earnings per share rose 41 per cent to 4.9p, and the dividend for the year is up 29 per cent to 1.8p.

Kunick shares on the USM rose 2p to 65p, close to their high for the last 12 months.

All divisions increased profits with care services, the group's nursing homes, hospitals and home care division, increasing profits by 100 per cent to £1.96 million. The company has 592 nursing home beds and expects to

have 722 by the end of this year.

Mr Russell Smith, Kunick's chairman, says that the group's compact disc jukebox already has a 40 per cent market share. He expects the new 20p stake fruit machines to add more than £2 million to profits in a full year. This year's extra contribution will



Smith: outgrowing USM

be about £1 million after the cost of converting machines.

Visitor attractions, principally the London Dungeon and the York Dungeon, increased profits by 20 per cent to £1.21 million despite the hot summer and the train strike, both of which had an adverse effect on business. A record 530,000 people visited the London Dungeon last year, and the group is planning to open a Paris Dungeon, detailing the gorier aspects of French history, this year. A Paris Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame will open in 1991.

The group intends to apply for a full listing this year, but it will not issue more shares, Mr Smith said that institutional shareholders had suggested that the group had outgrown the USM. It is offering its 7 per cent preference shareholders the same terms as its 8¼ per cent preference shareholders.

Australians take 5% of Whitegate

By Angela Mackay

Fairgill Investments, a company associated with the Fairfax family of Australia, has taken a 5.3 per cent holding in Mr Nick Oppenheim's Third Market vehicle, Whitegate Leisure, the fast-growing ten-pin bowling, discotheques and nursing homes group.

Whitegate's shares were trading at 40½p yesterday compared with 38½p a week earlier. It is capitalized at £57.8 million.

It is believed that Fairgill, a private company set up to invest outside Australia by Mr James Fairfax, the art collector and former chairman of the Fairfax media group, and Mr Edward Gilly, his half-brother, paid about £2.7 million for the bulk of the shares,

which were issued late last year to buy two more discotheques.

Mr Gilly, speaking from Australia, said that he had been at business school with Mr Oppenheim and that he was looking at the investment as "long-term with above-average growth."

He said that Fairgill had also recently invested in a Korean venture-capital company.

Northern-based Whitegate was described as "a recession-proof business with good margins" by Girocentrale Gilbert Eliot, the broker.

Whitegate, which was listed 14 months ago, is expected to sell its nursing homes business soon.

Bucknall Austin rises to £706,000

By Sam Parkhouse

Bucknall Austin, a quantity surveyor, has bought Thorne Wheatley Associates, a Paris surveyor, for up to £750,000 to lessen the effects of an expected 5 per cent downturn in UK construction activity this year.

Bucknall Austin revealed pre-tax profits up 37 per cent to £706,000 for its half year to October 1988, on turnover 61 per cent higher at £9.6 million. But Mr David Bucknall, chairman, said: "The anticipated slowdown in the construction market is now upon us. The Chancellor's Autumn Statement and other economic indicators lead us to believe that UK construction turnover will reduce by some 5 per cent this year." He added

that recent history shows that downturns in the UK have been matched by corresponding upturns in Europe, and particularly France. For this reason Thorne Wheatley, a leading quantity surveyor in France, was attractive.

A minimum consideration of £500,000 has been agreed, and this will rise to £750,000 depending on Thorne's performance in its current year to June.

Bucknall Austin made profits of £578,000 from quantity surveying, and £128,000 from its project management interests at its interim stage.

There is an interim dividend of 1.3p, up from 1p, on 22 per cent increased earnings per share of 6.2p.

Inns group starts £16m pub project

By Philip Pangalos

Northumbria Inns aims to acquire and develop more than 50 independent public houses in the North-east of England and North Yorkshire over the next two years in a £16 million project.

Electra Investment Trust, one of the leading providers of development capital, has arranged equity finance of £3 million for Northumbria Inns through its Electra Kingsway subsidiary.

County NatWest Ventures and 3i will each add a further £1.5 million.

An additional £10 million of mortgage finance will be provided by the brewery trade.

ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT 380	CU 351	LAG 2,419	Scot & N 3,085
Abbey Nat 2,133	Courtaulds 443	Lloyds 1,197	Sears 1,086
AEG 1,507	Dagmar 1,248	Lonrho 1,080	Shelf 5,642
Amrad 1,119	Thames 1,082	Lucas 824	Sherratt 728
ASDA 480	ICI 480	M&S 1,524	Slough 82
Argyll 7,010	Enterprise 871	Maswell Cn 1,240	Smith & N 2,700
BAA 885	Farnell 4,556	MS Group 630	SK Beach 2,038
BEL 3,816	Fisons 2,209	Smith Wh 178	St James 129
BTR 1,918	Flu 754	Midland 2,088	Stretcher 389
BAT 2,788	Gen Acc 1,185	Nat West 4,988	STC 2,231
Barclays 1,738	GE 6,914	Nest 3,383	Stan Chart 1,583
Bass 1,541	Glaxo 2,003	NFI Food 302	Storehouse 1,828
Benson 175	Globe Inv 1,414	P&O 1,630	Sun Alliance 1,630
Bentley Int 54	Glynwed 50	Pearl 728	T & N 728
BICC 251	Granada 385	Pershing 188	TI Group 877
Bun Arrow 85	Grand Met 3,513	Philpott 1,885	Tarmac 1,882
Buss Circle 1,389	GUS 'A' 111	Polly Peck 4,089	Tate & Lyle 129
BOG 2,248	GRE 2,272	Prudential 3,884	Taylor Wood 580
Broom 1,094	GRI 580	RAC 3,955	TBS 4,751
BPE 698	Guinness 2,876	Racal Tele 385	Tesco 3,248
Br Aero 2,288	Hamm 'A' 25	Rk Hovis 669	Thom EM 1,188
Br Land 4,218	Hanson 7,950	Rink 348	Tratagor 1,083
Br Petrol 9,785	H&C 93	RUC 141	THF 1,988
Br Gas 8,377	Hawker 388	Redford 1,282	Ultramar 1,188
Br Land 251	Hatfield 2,336	Reed 1,803	Unigate 538
Br Petrol 175	Hawthorn 178	Reid 1,803	Unigate 538
Br Steel 10,657	ICI 1,608	Reid 1,803	Unigate 538
Br Telecom 6,405	Inchcape 406	RTZ 1,245	Unilever 1,188
Burn 213	Jaguar 328	R-Royce 5,059	Unilever 1,188
Burn 659	Kingsfisher 130	Royal Bk 3,051	Unilever 1,188
Burton 1,081	Leasco 1,589	Royal Ins 3,078	Unilever 1,188
CAW 3,974	Leadbroke 3,278	Sage 1,279	Unilever 1,188
Cadbury 1,488	Land Sec 1,082	Sage 1,279	Unilever 1,188
Coats 1,388	Laporte 270	Sainsbury 1,043	Unilever 1,188

Apricot to restructure after bid

By Our City Staff

Apricot Computers, the Birmingham personal computer and services company, announced a new group structure after the completion of its agreed £12.7 million bid for ITL Information Technology.

The enlarged group will focus on the software and services and hardware divisions, in an attempt to lessen Apricot's dependence on hardware sales.

Apricot has merged its software and services interests with those of ITL under a separate division called ACT, consisting of five distinct companies, each with its own sector.



WELSH WATER PLC

هكذا من الاصل

Pay buoyancy prompts rise in living standards

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

A continued rise in living standards, slightly faster accumulation of savings and a sharp deterioration in the finances of companies are revealed by figures for the third quarter of last year.

Wages and salaries continued to rise rapidly in the third quarter, growing 2.6 per cent after seasonal adjustment, according to the Central Statistical Office.

This was slightly faster than in the second quarter and shows pay packets rising at 11.2 per cent over the year. Other personal income also grew rapidly.

The buoyancy of pay was the main factor in a rise in

living standards in the third quarter of 1.6 per cent, a substantially larger increase than in either of the two previous quarters. Over the year, living standards — as measured by real personal disposable income — rose 5.6 per cent.

In spite of the continued strong rise in living standards, people tended to save more and spend less as consumer confidence waned in the face of high interest rates.

The saving ratio — personal saving as a percentage of total personal disposable income — rose from 4.1 per cent in the second quarter to 5.5 per cent in the third, its highest level

since the first half of 1987. The rate of saving in Britain has been historically low for some years and low compared with other countries.

However, the Treasury yesterday gave warning against reading too much into the modest improvement, noting that both the figures for the two previous quarters had been significantly revised since earlier estimates.

The figure has also been swollen by the switch to personal pensions which has the statistical effect of increasing personal incomes.

For companies, falling demand coupled with continuing sharp increases in costs

Accounts change may boost banks

By Our City Staff

The British Bankers' Association is trying to standardize banking accounting practices in time for a threatened revolution in financial accounting law at the end of this year.

The BBA has published its first draft statement of accounting practice, called *Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice (Sorp)*, which recommends how Britain's banks should treat securities investment in their balance sheets.

This may add millions to profits at Britain's clearing banks, since they will be allowed to show many of their share and gilt holdings at current prices, instead of historic values.

Two more are planned — one on bad debts, the other on off-balance sheet products, like foreign exchange positions.

The Sorps are the products of a two-and-a-half year debate on contentious issues in the banking world. The three committees producing the reports are an attempt by the BBA's 400 members to self-regulate their accounting standards.

They are supported by the Treasury, the Department of Trade and Industry and the Bank of England.

The BBA is also using the Sorps to influence the DTT's forthcoming rules on accounting, which will radically alter the appearance of banking balance sheets from 1991.

The department's legislation is the result of the EC's bank accounting directive, which aims to standardize accounting throughout the 12 members.

In the first Sorp, the BBA recommends that banks should value securities at current cost, except for long-term investments which should be taken at historic value.

This effectively ends a debate between Britain's clearers — which preferred the conservative historic approach — and merchant banks, which mainly account on a current basis.

The report could be heading for an immediate crisis, however, since the suggested standard may conflict with West German banking law and leave banks like Morgan Grenfell, now owned by Deutsche Bank, unable to reconcile between systems.

The Sorp on bad debts has also hit controversy, although a compromise is thought to be close.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Devil of a time for the Morgan Grenfell story

The John Menzies bookshop in Old Broad Street, in the heart of the City, has been doing a roaring trade in *The Pride of Lucifer* this week. The book is subtitled *The Unauthorised Biography of a Merchant Bank*, and tells a story of the rise of Morgan Grenfell, the offices of which are little more than 100 yards from the bookshop.

Morgan Grenfell, and a small group of highly motivated corporate finance executives, including the team that pulled off the acquisition of Distillers for Guinness, challenged the establishment, even the Bank of England, and for a while looked like winning. In the end, it all began to fall apart.

The bank itself is unamused by the book, publication of which has been timed to coincide with the first of the Guinness trials, due to commence next month. According to the author, Dominic Hobson, "Morgan Grenfell have sought, through their solicitors, Slaughter & May, to prevent its publication".

This can hardly be surprising, since Hobson is a former employee of Morgan Grenfell who lost his job when the bank made the decision to close down the equities operations in 1988. "I left... both happy and generously compensated," admits Hobson, who claims he felt compelled to write the controversial tome for the sake of those whose lives and careers were changed irrevocably by the chain of events at Morgan. "It is them who are owed this glimpse of the truth," says Hobson.

It will interest a wider audience, but the organization that it describes is already long gone. Most of the leading figures whose antics are chronicled by the former insider are long gone. The

equities operations, which provided Hobson with his ringside seat, are closed. The corporate finance department, scene of the brainstorming sessions that created Storehouse, the Burton takeover of Debenhams and, of course, the winning of Distillers for Guinness, is a much quieter, more conventional place under the control of Guy Dawson, a man untainted by the problems of earlier successes and excesses.

But the next chapter could be equally interesting. The implications of the £1 billion takeover of Morgan by Deutsche Bank are only just sinking in to its competitors around the City. Deutsche Bank holds the strongest card in corporate Europe. Its shareholdings are legendary and its influence unparalleled. The deal, which even managed to give investors a 50p-a-share profit on the over-hyped flotation price in 1986, plugs Morgan into Europe in a big way.

The deal was closed as the Berlin Wall was opened, and although Deutsche Bank paid a breathtaking price, it could see the potential in bringing Morgan's deal-making ability to a Europe-wide audience. The next stage is likely to be a strengthening of the United States operations so as to bring in some of the "big hitters" able to attract the major transatlantic corporate deals.

Within a year or two, the bank described in Mr Hobson's book is likely to be unrecognizable as the bank which will emerge from beneath the vast financial wingspan of Deutsche Bank. And then, maybe, Morgan may find a place for *The Pride of Lucifer* in the boardroom bookcase. For without the events of late 1980s, Morgan might still have remained just another small, quality, London bank.

Alan Bond plays for time

Seldom in corporate history has there been a more ridiculous idea than the notion of innocent Jeff Reynolds, aged 28, from Houston sorting out the affairs of arch-dealmaker Alan Bond. Armed with little more than a winning smile, \$250 million and a 65p master company registered in Singapore, the man who appears more suited to a surfboard than a boardroom is attempting to stave off the liquidation of the Bond empire.

This all seemed quite ludicrous until Mr Reynolds senior, who lives not far away from Houston, in Dallas, let slip that his lad, who started his business dealings a decade ago when he was just 18, has links with the Sultan of Brunei. It is not clear whether Mr Reynolds senior was talking with authorization from his son, but it does beggar credibility that the Sultan, one of the richest men in the world, would single out Mr Reynolds to be the conduit for a takeover of the Bond empire.

If it did happen that way, however, it would give a long laugh to Tiny Rowland, who has taken an extraordinary interest in the Sultan's deals since the takeover of House of Fraser, and whose detailed exposure of the extent of Bond Corporation's debts exacerbated the present crisis.

In any case, the publicity generated by Mr Reynolds does suit Mr Bond. What the troubled entrepreneur needs more than anything is time, for the longer creditors are held at bay the better the chances of Mr Bond being able to keep some element of control over the empire. Creditors have now started falling out with each other, and so long as the legal claims remain in dispute it is unlikely that the rug will finally be pulled from beneath Mr Bond's feet. Mr Reynolds is no white knight; but he is a useful diversion.

Britannia changing to Invesco

By Neil Bennett

Britannia Arrow, Lord Stevens' fund management group, is changing its name to Invesco MIM, the titles of its two main subsidiaries, as the start of a £3 million name change throughout the group.

Lord Stevens also revealed the group is planning an assault on the ¥60,000 billion (£252 billion) Japanese investment trust market, by applying for one of first trust licences offered to foreigners.

Britannia's name change comes two months after it bought the remaining 55 per cent of Invesco, its US investment subsidiary. Lord Stevens said it had been decided to underline the group's main management business. He also said the Britannia name had negative nationalistic connotations.

The change will cost £500,000, most of it on advertising. But Britannia is looking at a reworking of all subsidiary titles, costing up to £3 million.

Britannia, which manages funds of £25 billion, recently opened a Tokyo office and is keen to attract more Japanese investors. It wants a Japanese investment trust licence, to allow it to issue yen-denominated trusts. The group is thought to be in competition with other European and American houses. Results of formal applications are expected in the autumn.



Taking the title role: Lord Stevens announces Britannia's name change to Invesco yesterday

Fine Art threatens action against EFL

By Sam Parkhouse

Fine Art Developments is threatening EFL Nederland with a legal battle in order to close the Aus\$30 million (£14.2 million) sale of Bell & Howell, its Australian business, agreed with EFL last month.

EFL agreed to buy Fine Art's 64 per cent stake in the greeting cards-to-mail order business for Aus\$30 million cash, at 54 cents a share, by January 5.

Mr Keith Chapman, chairman of Fine Art, said his company had already fulfilled the first phase of the deal by selling a 31.2 per cent holding to EFL on December 6.

But Bell & Howell shares have since slipped to 49 cents

on the Australian Stock Exchange, and EFL has demanded the right to renegotiate the deal price. The Dutch company has won an extension of the offer period, to March 6, from the New South Wales Corporate Affairs Commission. Mr Chapman said it seemed unlikely Fine Art would receive the first instalment payment at the end of the month, as agreed.

Fine Art has told EFL it wants a commitment from the company that it will fulfil the obligation to make its offer for all the Bell & Howell shares this week. Fine Art said it would pursue "appropriate legal remedies" if it did not receive the commitment.

Countryside rises in gloomy market

By Colin Campbell

Countryside Properties managed to survive the worst effects of a depressed housing and property market in the year ended September. It says that now is a suitable time for it to buy land since it has traditionally made its best purchases when the housing market is less active.

Mr Alan Cherry, chairman, reported pre-tax profits of £20.3 million, against £19.25 million, for the group's ninth successive year of profits growth, even though turnover slipped from £95.6 million to £88.8 million.

Mr Cherry concedes that the Government's anti-inflation policy has temporarily slowed Countryside's progress, but

says there remains a considerable underlying need and demand for more, and better, new homes.

"Countryside currently owns, or has an interest in, land with planning permission for 2,800 new homes," he said.

Mr Cherry added: "I believe that the housing market will move ahead again when mortgage interest rates fall, unleashing pent-up demand."

The group says it was well served by partnership schemes with building societies and housing associations.

The final dividend rises from 2.15p to 2.7p, payable April 6, making 4p (3.15p). The shares rose 10p to 219p. *Tempos, page 26*

Doctor on call

Practical jokes in the City are not uncommon but only occasionally do they go badly wrong. Word reaches me, however, of one persistent and erroneous telephone caller, shortly before Christmas, who kept dialling the trading floor at Kleinwort Benson. The caller repeatedly asked if he was through to the doctor's surgery and asked to speak to a certain Dr Mortimer. Exasperated after countless denials, the KB man who kept answering the call eventually persuaded a colleague — institutional salesman Hilfy (Hilton) Seely — to pose as Dr Mortimer, in the hope of clearing the line for genuine investment clients. A subsequent call was duly made to the trading floor and Seely was summoned. Without any further introduction, the caller promptly asked this so-called Dr Mortimer what he thought about a certain medical matter. The sophisticated Seely responded by shouting a sexually explicit word into the receiver. The caller, somewhat taken aback, quickly terminated the conversation, muttering something about there being "some mistake". KB later received a terse complaint from Greater London Radio that "Dr Mortimer's" comments had gone on live to a million listeners during a phone-in programme. Seely, meanwhile, clearly enjoyed his moment of stardom. "I've never been on radio before," he told one colleague proudly.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Jeffreys' tails of woe

Clearly not content with notching up the biggest car parking bill in the history of the City — £5,000 — Daniel Jeffreys, Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers' new head of UK equity strategy and the former head of the BBC's economics and financial unit, is now, I hear, the proud possessor of one of the most expensive white tie morning suits on record. Hired from Lipman & Soa, in London's Charing

Cross Road in mid-October, in time for the Chancellor's annual Mansion House speech, the suit — complete with hired waistcoat, shirt and bow tie — is, I'm told, still hanging in his closet. Estimated to be worth less than £300, the accrued hire charges now total more than £400. "If he brings it back and talks to the manager, we can probably come to an arrangement," suggests a helpful Lipman's assistant.

Squeaked in

The three newly refurbished office blocks inhabited by Eitel, the financial and racing news service, within a stone's throw of Old Street round-

about on the edge of the Square Mile, have hitherto been assumed impenetrable to anything but authorized human beings. "We've got security guards and cameras on every entrance, we have to wear security passes complete with photographs and carry electronic keys to open even internal doors," confides one inmate. Staff there were thus understandably surprised to find that some unauthorized individual had been nibbling at their sandwiches. And last week the culprit was spotted... a mouse was seen running from the second floor office of City editor Ken Clay. "There's so much paper in there, we think it's made a nest," quipped one employee.

● The power of prayer, or of advertising? Short of recruits, nuns in New York launched their own advertising campaign and they have been inundated with calls.



● Jeffrey Archer, the millionaire novelist who knows the rags to riches route all too well, is to be guest speaker at this year's USM Awards dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel on March 6. The 1,000 guests — most of them directors of USM companies, plus their assorted broking, banking and PR advisers — will no doubt be hanging on his every word.

Carol Leonard

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.



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It's not every new name in financial services that can claim to run a global network, or to have £25 billion of funds under management. But this new name is a rather exceptional one. Because behind it lie the worldwide resources of what was formerly Britannia Arrow Holdings.

Resources that already include formidable expertise in the whole gamut of financial services, from pensions and insurance to unit trusts and fund management. And which were boosted by our acquisition in 1988 of Invesco, one of the most dynamic capital management companies in the US.

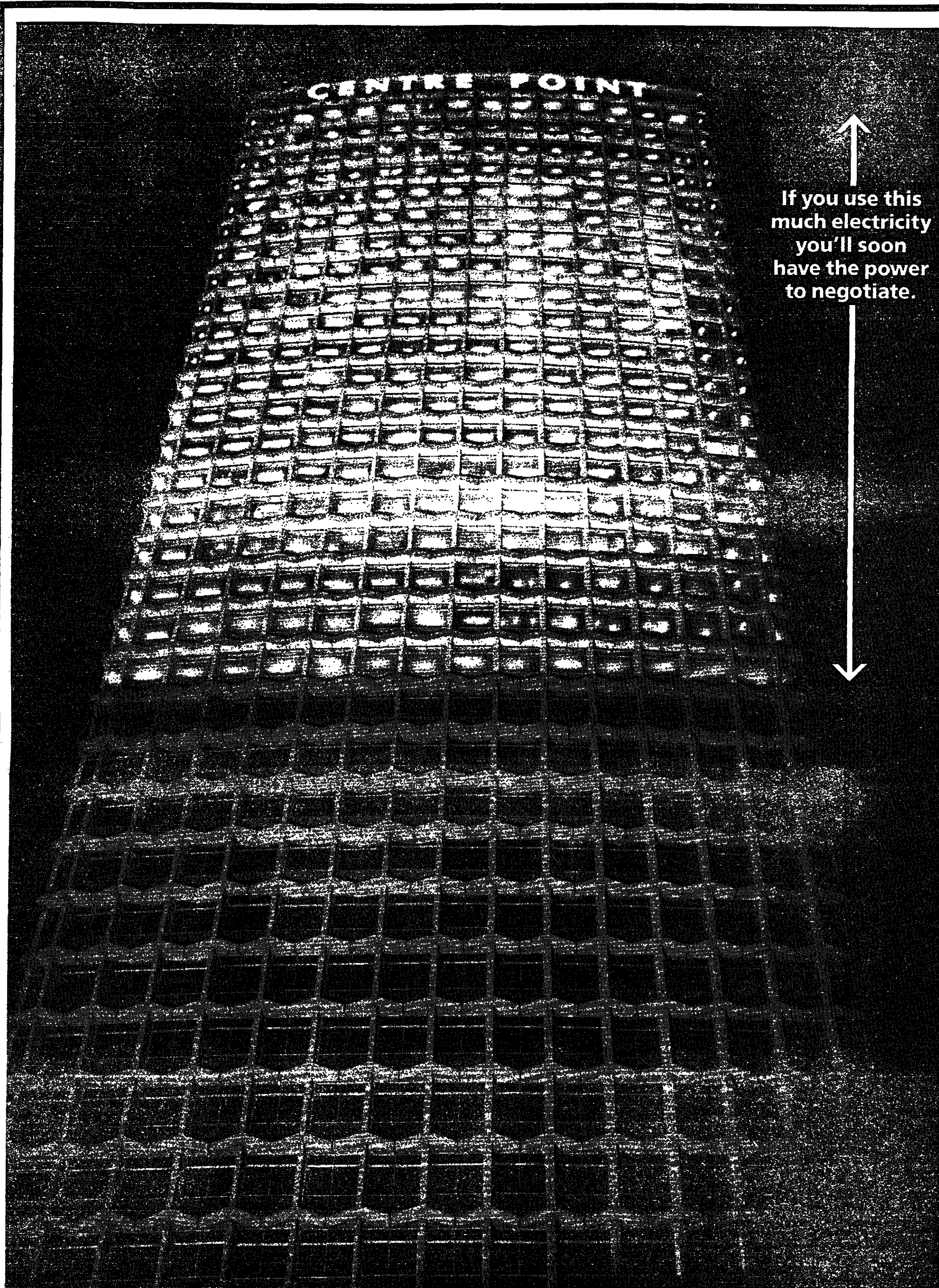
Resources that span Japan, the Far East, the USA, UK and Europe, but which we have now drawn together under a single new company name. INVESCO MIM PLC. A single name to express a single-minded ambition for the 1990's. Quite simply, to be the leader in global fund management. For a new name in financial services, it's an ambitious aim. But as you

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£13,500 + BENEFITS
This Education Foundation are seeking a second person to help run its small London office. You will liaise between the UK and the USA on behalf of the students almost everyday. You will be responsible for updating mailing lists and personal records and generally making sure that things run smoothly. This position would suit a more mature person who feels they would be better off being left to their own devices. Call Julia...

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT 01-594 6242

GOING, GOING, GONE!
£11,500
This world famous Auction House requires a bright well spoken secretary to work in their West Dept. This is not just a normal secretarial position as there is an awful lot of lasing between Switzerland and France, so a good command of French is essential and good secretarial skills. Call now Beverly.

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT 01-594 6242

THE HEART OF MAYFAIR
£14,500 + ++
This young commercial property company based in the West End requires a good all round secretary to work in their PR and Marketing Dept. The ideal candidate must have a great personality, and share an interest in the property world, excellent secretarial skills but no shorthand required. Call now Beverly.

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT 01-594 6242

ART GALLERY
£13,500 + ++
This well known contemporary art gallery based in luxurious offices in the West End requires a bright good all round secretary to work in their luxurious show room. The ideal candidate must be of a good educational background and a high standard of secretarial skills is essential including shorthand. Call now Beverly.

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT 01-594 6242

Knight Frank & Rutley
INTERNATIONAL

Senior PA/Secretary to Senior Partner
in the Farms Department
Administrative capabilities, good audio typing, strong personality and a team worker able to prioritise.

Senior PA/Secretary to a Departmental Partner
Must have at least 5 years experience, good organiser, accurate audio typing, team worker with a good sense of humour.

Junior Secretary in our Residential Office
in Kensington
Working in a small team, audio typing, WP and general office duties. Must have a good educational background and be able to cope with showing people over properties.

Please telephone or write to:
Mrs P J Turner
Knight Frank & Rutley
20 Hanover Square
London W1R 0AH
Tel: 01-629 8171

20 Hanover Square, London W1R 0AH

LEAVING COLLEGE

Your first career move - 1990

A number of our clients, all leading international organisations and household names have requested our assistance in their search for young secretaries who are presently thinking about their first career move.

Sophisticated training programmes together with friendly and helpful support will allow the ideal applicant to become totally involved in their new environment. You will be given the opportunity to utilise your secretarial skills, learn new word processing packages and develop the areas you most enjoy whilst gaining business knowledge and experience.

First interviews will be held in our offices, situated in Regent Street with second interviews taking place with our clients.

If you would like the opportunity to discuss your career with us, we will be delighted to see you, just call us on 01-872 8889 to arrange a suitable date and time. As well as helping our clients, we would like to help you!

MacBlain Nash
WEST END
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Partner's Secretary
Management Consultants

£14,000

The Banking and Finance Division of Price Waterhouse Management Consultants seeks a PA/Sec for a Partner who specialises in IT Consultancy work. Knowledge of computer terminology and a calm, organised approach to each day are essential for this busy and varied job working with clients worldwide. Full PA duties required together with extensive team contact to keep projects moving. The office is located in superb accommodation over-

looking the Thames at London Bridge. Benefits include STL, swimming pool, subsidised restaurant, paid overtime and Christmas Bonus. If you have experience at a senior secretarial level, preferably in the City, as well as unflagging energy, please write to: Mrs Jenny Kaneill, Price Waterhouse Management Consultants, 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL.

Price Waterhouse

USE YOUR BRAINPOWER!!
£13,000 + Benefits

If you feel that you are not challenged enough in your present position, our client, a market leader in its field, has an opportunity for a strong organiser to join a 'fascinating' division. Your excellent sec skills set the standard for your two juniors. High admin content. Telephone 01-792 3939 today.

NEW YEAR - NEW JOB

The Mayfair based London office of a major Japanese Corporation with a diverse range of international interests is looking for a versatile extremely competent PA/Secretary to work at Senior Director level. If you possess an excellent sense of humour, are well organised & have knowledge of the Wang PC system - then this could be the job for you. Excellent remuneration package offered. Reply to Box B41

Airline Leasing
£17,000 plus bonus

A major Airline Leasing Group needs a PA to the Chief Financial Officer. From a superb West End base you will have worldwide contact through offices in Hong Kong, Tokyo and New York. You will be at the heart of the deals speaking directly to clients and seeing the whole project through. Age 30-40 Skills 100/70.

01-629 9323

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES

Personal Assistant
£16,000

This appointment is a true mix of a business PA and social organiser. You need a quick efficient brain to back-up a young, energetic Director of a major British Organisation and a natural social awareness to help him run two homes and organise many leisure activities. Age 28-35 Skills 100/60.

01-629 9323

P/A Secretary

City Public Relations to £11,250 + Review

Citigate Marketing is a young PR and Advertising Consultancy specialising in the Financial Services sector.

As the result of our continued success we require a PA/Sec to work closely both with our busy MD and our small friendly team.

You will need to be energetic, enthusiastic, flexible and be used to working on your own initiative, often under pressure. We are based in modern offices near Bank, Liverpool and Fenchurch Street stations.

You will be primarily responsible for the day-to-day running of the MD's hectic diary and schedule and will need to acquire a detailed understanding of his PR clients and their needs.

You will have excellent shorthand (90-100 wpm), and typing skills of 50-60 wpm, as well as excellent administrative and organisational ability. Experience on IBM Multimate WP is preferable.

In the first instance, contact Charlotte Horn at:
Citigate Marketing
7 Birch Lane,
London EC3V 9BY.
Tel: 01-623 2737.

(No agencies)

Citigate
marketing

FIMBRA

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

The Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association was appointed under the Financial Services Act to regulate some 8,000 firms which offer independent investment advice and services to the general public. The affairs of the Association are managed by a council and its committees.

An opening now exists for a Committee Secretary to provide all necessary support to some of these committees. This will involve organising meetings; preparing and issuing agendas and all supporting papers; taking the minutes; liaising with committee members and dealing with correspondence relevant to the work of the committees. Reporting to the Secretary of the Association s/he will be a member of a small team responsible for all secretarial and administrative functions.

Applicants must be experienced at taking and transcribing minutes, and possess good administrative, communication and keyboard skills. This position could well appeal to a skilled secretary who is now looking for the opportunity to work on his or her own initiative. Non-smoker preferred.

FIMBRA is based in a modern office building in Docklands, with train and bus connections close by. A good salary and benefit package is offered including a generous L.V. allowance, PPP, STL and pension scheme.

Please apply in writing, enclosing a comprehensive CV, to:

Daphne Vandersteen, FIMBRA
Hertsmere House, Marsh Wall
London, E14 9RW

NO AGENCIES PLEASE

CALLING THE CREAM OF LONDON'S
P.A.'s, SECRETARIES, ADMINISTRATORS
AND RECEPTIONISTS

ADVANCE TO

MAYFAIR

And join us at Mayfair Recruitment (W1) Limited, as we move forward into the 1990's.

DIRECTORS PA

A marvellous opportunity has arisen for a top quality PA to join the Director of this small, but extremely successful Property Company, based in W1. He is busy, very hardworking, with a great sense of humour. You'll be in your mid-20's, smartly presented and be in possession of 100 wpm shorthand and 60 wpm typing skills. Do you come up to the mark? Then call: 01 409 3292

SENIOR PARTNER SECRETARY

Assist this busy partner by organising his diary, making travel arrangements and most importantly, arranging his messages. Good audio typing skills are required for this position, as well as the ability to keep calm in a crisis!

JUNIOR SECRETARY

This is an ideal position for a second jobber. Further your secretarial career with this well known Art Gallery based in W1. Good audio typing & a pleasant personality are all that's required to join this small friendly team.

We have many more vacancies for Secretarial staff within Property, Fashion and Television.

CALL US NOW ON 01 409 3292 FOR IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW.

01-584 3222

TM

01-584 3222

DO YOU WANT 18K?

It can be yours if you are an experienced PA/Sec who wants to work for two young Directors in a major international company. Age 21-25. 100/50. Languages useful.

Please call us for an interview until 6.00pm.

LONDON BRUSSELS

DRAKE PERSONNEL

SECRETAIRE DE DIRECTION EXPERIMENTEE

PARIS 7ème 180.000-200.000FF

Pour une équipe de consultants

Agée de 25 à 35 ans

De langue maternelle anglaise

La steno anglaise appréciée

CONTACTEZ: DENISE HIRAL -

01-625 4031

72 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1 (REC CONS)

OLYMPIA & YORK



Olympia & York is a major international company. It is building Canary Wharf in London's Docklands, Europe's largest commercial development. We are currently looking to recruit in the following areas:

LEGAL SECRETARY

First class secretarial & administrative support for in-house solicitor. Fast and accurate audio-W/P skills. Ability to work to deadlines without close supervision. Some previous legal experience essential. Ref. L100

Salary to £15,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mature individual to organise day to day activities of hectic department. Applicant should be resilient, articulate, and have strong interpersonal skills. Sound knowledge of data base and wordprocessing packages (Paradox, Lotus, DW4, WordPerfect). Highly demanding and pressurised role. Ref. M100

Salary to £16,000.

SECRETARIAL

We currently have a number of secretarial vacancies which require excellent audio/wordprocessing skills. A minimum of 3 years secretarial experience. These positions will appeal to self starters who want to use their initiative. Ref. M101

Salary to £14,000, depending on qualification and experience

PART TIME/EVENINGS

Receptionist/Telephonist required to work from 5:00 to 8:30 PM - Monday to Friday. Neat and professional appearance. Good telephone manner. Ref. A100

Salary £5.25/hour after successful completion of 2 week training period at £3.50/hour.

The Company has extremely high standards and all candidates are required to have 'O' level standard education or equivalent and present themselves in a professional manner. In return we offer competitive salaries with yearly reviews, free Bugs, life assurance, disability insurance, a contributory pension scheme, 4 weeks holidays and Season Ticket loans. Currently based in Westminster, relocating to the Docklands 1991.

To apply for one of the above vacancies please write, indicating the job reference and enclosing a detailed CV to:

Mrs Gloria Brouillette, Personnel Manager, Olympia and York Canary Wharf Ltd
10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE

AHEAD START
£12-£14,000 +

An excellent career opportunity that would suit either a mature College-Leaver or someone with 6 to 12 months secretarial experience. As a trainee P.A. for 3 years, easy-going & fun Fund Managers at this top City brokerage you will be responsible for organising their, at times, chaotic day. Lots of telephone contact, meetings/travel to arrange, typing and general admin duties. If you are quick, bright and enthusiastic please call us now:

01-283 0799
(Recruitment Consultants)

CROSS
SELECTION

18K Package

A quick-thinking well presented young secretary with good skills is required by this Major Int. Bank. Working mainly for a Director whilst helping to support his small, lively team, this post will best suit someone who enjoys variety, involvement and responsibility. Duties include: Diary, travel arrangements and client liaison. Stunning offices, a busy environment & the very best banking benefits (including Mortgage Subsidy) are offered in return for hard work and at least 2 years' solid secretarial experience.

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CALL:

01-283 0799
(Recruitment Consultants)

CROSS
SELECTION

MARY HOLLAND

BANKING, STOCKBROKING AND SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT

2-8 Mason's Avenue Basinghall Street London EC2V 8BT

01-725 4132/01-725 4887

ASSOCIATES

DEALING ROOM
SEC/ASST

£14,500 + MORTGAGE SUBSIDY

Very little shorthand involved. Responsibilities involve keeping track of departmental expenses, general administration for the dealers and arrangement of presentations. The pace is fast but exciting with plenty of interesting senior delegated responsibility.

Tel: 01-725 4132 (ansaphone out of office hours) Fax: 01-796 4887

SEC/COURSE
ORGANISER

£11,000 + BONUS

+ FREE 3 COURSE LUNCH

Shorthand not essential. Based in the Capital Markets training department there will be a lot of people contact, organising opportunities and courses. Young professional environment offering excellent career prospects.

Personnel

£13,000 + package

As Secretary to a VERY busy Personnel Manager within top City stockbroking firm, you will be encouraged to take responsibility, act on your own initiative and be trained in the use of a computer. Lots of telephone work is involved and the emphasis is on teamwork and confidentiality. WP skills & occasional audio, age 22-26. Hours 9-5 plus paid overtime. Full banking package includes immediate mortgage subsidy.

Please telephone Sabina Stewart on 01-588 3535.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RESEARCH ASSISTANT TO £17,000

If you are looking for that secretarial role with a difference, then join this international firm of management consultants. You will fill a key support role in the price as you handle specific research projects for clients and give PA backup to their Managing Partner. A' Levels and 50 typing essential. Please telephone 01 240 3511

Elizabeth Hunt

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONAL ASSISTANT £14,000 PA NEG

We require an enthusiastic and intelligent P.A. with good secretarial/organisational skills to assist General Manager of deluxe hotel in Belgium opening shortly.

Please apply in writing with full C.V. to:

c/o The Times

Box 108

PA TO MD

£18,000 + Bonus. Charming young Chief Executive of a prestigious PA/Advertising Co. in Victoria, seeks a PA/Sec. with a mature outlook. You should be bright and articulate with excellent English, combined with top secretarial skills 90/60. Aged 24-32. Please contact:

Diana Stevens at King and Tolson Recruitment Consultants on 01-629 9048.

MAJOR ARTS TRUST

£12,700

Exp. PA secretary to help in a very busy office with lots of contact both personal and on the telephone with sponsors. First age 30+ with WP and SH experience. On Top Recruitment 01-435 7482

KNIGHTSBRIDGE INTERIOR DESIGN COMPANY

modern Secretary for their Battersea office. Typing 50 wpm, shorthand 60/90 wpm, WP helpful. Salary £9,500 pa. Tel: 01 978 2088.

MORE THAN JUST A SECRETARY

£10,000 - £15,000

(depending on year)

Help develop an exciting business.

Estate Agency. Building Society or Insurance

experience a plus. 5 'O' Levels or better. Numeracy essential.

HOME BUYERS' ADVISORY SERVICE

Tel: 01-262 3649

TEMP TO PERM £14,500

Legal/WP Litigation & WordPerfect Sec. Ws Co. with friendly atmosphere to start ASAP. Please Jiff Hash Recruitment 01 - 287 9370

Career into the 1990s

Dream Job £13,500 & Excellent Package

Summing chance to use your organisational flair working for two managers in the Media Department of this prestigious plc. You will be organising quarterly conferences, and regular internal and external meetings, answering numerous queries in their frequent absence and generally organising them and their department. More and more responsibility and opportunity to use your initiative as the job progresses. 50wpm copy typing/ WP. Ages 23-28. Please call Lynne Dawson on 01-437 6032

French Connection £14,000 & Banking Benefits

Two busy Directors of major international bank, responsible for the crucial research behind the brokers' wheeling and dealing decisions, are seeking a secretary with good conversational French and an inquisitive nature. Liaise with French clients, juggle itineraries and travel arrangements and help analyse confidential company research. Director level experience and excellent organisational skills and a meticulous spirit are essential qualities. Skills 50wpm/aud. Age 23-40. Please call Elizabeth Williamson on 01-256 5018

PA in PR c.£14,000 plus bonus

Enter this 'State of the Art' international PR company near Victoria working for a charming executive. You will be dealing with well established prestigious clients as you become involved in all his projects and know what's going on at every stage of a campaign. This is a super opportunity to join a leading PR company. You will need to be well presented, confident with skills of 80/50/aud. WP. Age 20-28. Please call Lynne Dawson on 01-437 6032

Sprechen sie Deutsch? £15,000 package

Join the frontline Marketing Department in one of the most prestigious City based banks as secretary to the Manager and his two creative assistants. Using your fluent German you will co-ordinate itineraries for their European promotional trips, assist in the preparation of brochures and presentation material, liaise with the press, as well as providing administrative and secretarial backup as part of the team. Skills 100/60/ WP. £13,000 & MS and banking benefits. Please call Esther Marsden on 01-256 9018



CITY: 4TH FLOOR, 18-25 ELDON STREET, LONDON EC2M 7LA. TEL: 01-256 5018. FAX: 01-256 8374.

WEST END: VICTORY HOUSE, 99-101 REGENT STREET, LONDON W1R 7HR. TEL: 01-437 6032. FAX: 01-494 0607.

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HOBSTONES
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£16,000 £17,000 by March!

Efficient, poised PA sought by renowned Architectural practice in Kensington High St. Working for a Senior Partner who is involved in securing new business for the company: presentations - with scaled models of buildings, slide shows, wiring & dining - you'll arrange visits to The Opera, dinner at The Dorchester. Look after the most creative team in the country and ensure they keep things running smoothly. You will need plenty of initiative to run the show during his frequent absence from the office. Typing goes in peaks and troughs, when busy, you will need to be calm under pressure. Minimum skills 80/50, a clean driving licence and aged around 25 years. (Interests in sailing a distinct advantage!)

01-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY

Recruitment
Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

CONSUMER ADVERTISING £12,000 + Bonus

As an Account Group Secretary you will liaise with Clients and other areas of this massive Advertising Agency. Typing letters, memos, conference reports, organising travel and catering, maintaining diaries and keeping your team up-to-date. The potential is there for you to take on more administration, attending status meetings and generally becoming more involved. An excellent ground-floor opportunity to learn about Account Handling with this top ten Agency of world repute. No shorthand or audio, just fast, accurate typing and plenty of initiative. Unbeatable benefits and in-house facilities that have to be seen to be appreciated!

01-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY

Recruitment
Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

TACT & DIPLOMACY £14,000 (TO £16,000 Pkg)

Have you got what it takes to look after a dynamic, demanding duo? He is mid 30's, a Director, in charge of 50% of this company's Account Handlers. Dealing with VIP Clients, he is also involved in man-management and company strategy. She is an Account Executive, her job is incredibly pressured, she needs everything to be perfect. The company is a major force in the field of Business, Corporate & Financial Communications (PR, Advertising, Design, Marketing etc all under one roof). Rusty shorthand and typing of around 60 wpm, early-mid 30's. The perks and the social life are excellent!

01-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY

Recruitment
Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

PURE ADMINISTRATION £11,000

Six months minimum office experience and a logical mind plus 30 wpm typing could be the start of an excellent career with this well known firm of Management Consultants in Knightsbridge. You will be dealing with enquiries and solving problems for Consultants, lots of telephone liaison with regional and European offices, have responsibility for your own projects, be conversant with computers, possess reasonable keyboard skills plus the ability to check calculations and work to deadlines. If this sounds like you, call us now to arrange an immediate interview.

01-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY

Recruitment
Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

DESIGN £17,000

Hectic, demanding and very busy position for an Office Manager/PA Sec to join this exciting growing Co. You'll be responsible for hiring employees, sorting out systems and ordering equipment as a decision maker is essential. Benefits including profit share, STL, BUPA etc.

CITY: 01-481 2245

WEST END: 01-408 2254
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

INVOLVEMENT £16,000

Advance your career when you join this rapidly expanding Computer Co. This is an exciting opening for an accomplished PA/Office Manager with SH to run the sales office. Total autonomy as a decision maker is essential. Benefits include profit share, STL, BUPA etc.

CITY: 01-481 2245

WEST END: 01-408 2254
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

CAREER PA £17,000

A born organiser with bags of initiative and good Sec skills is needed to join this fast and furious Management Consultancy. Liaising at a senior level you'll be organising conferences and seminars running the office and providing full sec support. Fabulous opportunity.

CITY: 01-481 2245

WEST END: 01-408 2254
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

ADMINISTRATOR £15,000

Unlimited potential for a professional Secretary/Administrator able to control a hectic office and assist the Director of this up market Design Co. Dealing with diverse projects you'll be required to juggle lots of different balls at once, join a Co. where talent is recognised and rewarded.

CITY: 01-481 2245

WEST END: 01-408 2254
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

abbatt abbatt abbatt abbatt

FARNHAM

P.A. to M.D.

£11 - 12.5K

Exp PA for MD of TPL consultancy group. Strong org skills, versatility + able to work on several projects simultaneously. Much liaison with suppliers, clients etc. Requires mature approach from someone able to make positive contribution to running of company. Grad calibre, bilingual French, sound sec background (60+ wpm), non-smoker + car driver.

CALL

Alison

Tharby

0252 733474

FUND MANAGEMENT - SW1

£18,000 + BONUS

A small team of delightful Fund Managers needs a charming, confident, competent PA to run their office life. To fit well into the team, you will be quick-witted, have a flexible attitude and enjoy high level client contact. Good WP nec. Age 30-45.

MAJOR PLC - SW1

c.£14,000 + benefits

Recently appointed Director of leading international plc needs a young PA who can 'grow' with the job. The office is stylish and modern, the HQ team small, professional and friendly. German is very useful. Excellent WP skills. Rusty SH ok. Age 22-30.

INTERIOR DESIGN - SW8

£13,000

Commercial Director of major force in the design world needs an energetic, down-to-earth secretary who can give first class secretarial back-up and handle recruitment of growing staff. This is a busy, demanding job which is fun as your boss will give you room to develop the role. 80/85 skills. Age 22-35.

PA HOLLAND PARK

c.£16,000

January start

Chairman of small successful investment company urgently needs a self-starting, capable PA who can ensure his considerable empire runs smoothly. The office is magnificent and there is real potential for developing the role. 80/85 + WP. Age 22-35

JIGSAW

RECRUITMENT

'A' FOR EFFORT

£14,000 + MORTGAGE

A 'team player' in the fast-moving and sometimes pressurised corporate France department at this major City bank, you will enjoy this work hard/play hard environment. Previous banking/financial experience and 'A' levels preferred; audio and rusty shorthand essential; age mid 20's. The mortgage subsidy is worth another £3,000 - £5,000 a year.

Call 377-2666 City or 439-7001 West End

SECRETARIES PLUS

The Secretarial Consultants

BORN ORGANISER

c.£16,000

Unlimited involvement is guaranteed in this large international blue chip company. As right-hand to a dynamic managing director and a vice president you will be encouraged to utilise your organisational skills to the full. This is a varied and fascinating role in which you'll have a senior level, setup systems and ensure the smooth running of the office. 50wpm typing needed. Shorthand useful not essential.

Please telephone 248 3744

Elizabeth Hunt

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PAN PACIFIC HOTELS & RESORTS

SALES SECRETARY/PA

A challenging opportunity for an experienced secretary to join a deluxe hotel chain.

Responsibilities in addition to secretarial work will be general office management, liaising with key clients, co-ordination of sales promotion activities.

Skills needed are: accuracy, shorthand 80wpm, word processing 70wpm, good telephone manner, initiative and pleasing personality. Non smoker.

A European language will be a definite advantage.

Position available from 1st February. Salary is negotiable.

Please call or write with C.V. to:

Jill Mockridge,

Director of Sales & Marketing UK & Europe

Pan Pacific Hotels & Resorts

1st Floor, 295 Regent Street

London W1R 7YA

Tel No: 01 491 3812 Fax No: 01 323 1791

No Agency

MEDIA CAREERS

£9,500-13,500

As a major force in Media Recruitment Christopher Keats recruits for most of the

FILM, TV, ADVERTISING, PR & MAGAZINE

companies in Central and Greater London. If you are seeking a media career and are prepared to use your secretarial skills in return for total involvement, responsibility and prospects, contact the Media

Specialists on:

01-379 4164 or 379 0344

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until 8pm

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News International Newspapers Limited

SUNDAY TIMES

NEWSDESK SECRETARY

Aged 23 plus

Salary: c.£12,000

A Secretary is required to work on the NewsDesk of the Sunday Times. Experience in a similar environment would be an asset.

Applicants should have a mature outlook, possess good secretarial skills (100/60), and have the ability to work under pressure, whilst maintaining an excellent telephone manner.

An excellent benefits package is offered, which includes six weeks holiday and BUPA.

Applicants should apply in writing only, enclosing a CV together with daytime telephone number, to:

Mrs B Hemmings

Recruitment Manager

News International Newspapers Limited

PO Box 481

Virginia Street

London E1 9BD.

POSITIVE, FLEXIBLE, LIVELY PERSON FOR SIMILAR SALES COMPANY

Put your strong personality to work in this small but highly successful sales company, as Secretary to two Directors.

Operating from London, the company sells its products worldwide - which means extensive travel arrangements and diary keeping as well as correspondence and general assistance with administration.

Variety is assured. Ideally 20+ (a second 'jobber'), you must be willing to be a real part of the team, and have SH 80 wpm and WP skills. £11,500 + excellent benefits.

Please contact us on 01 836 6644

RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

STELLA FISHER

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Personnel - A Sound Investment

To £14,000

A well known City Finance House is now looking for an energetic and confident individual to take on a key role.

As Secretary to the Personnel/HR Department, you'll be providing sound administrative support to 2 senior members of staff, so obviously you'll need good secretarial skills (80/60) together with some experience of working in a fast-moving environment. Age 22-30.

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Putting an end to the race of the corrupt

Changing the name of a football club — from Dynamo Bucharest to Unirea Tricolor — and disbanding a few sides associated with the more abject institutions of the Ceausescu regime will not satisfy increasingly assertive public opinion in Romania.

"Do you know how many clean games Corvinul Hunedoara have played in the first half of the season?" Romulus Cebores, the international, said. "Well, I'll tell you. Only three out of 17. The rest were all fixed." The championship league became a race of the corrupt.

Cosmetic changes will not do because suspicion and recriminations are a way of life these days. The bloodshed and the years of repression make much-needed reconciliation extremely difficult and haste after the recent events could be regarded as indecent.

On the one hand, the provisional leadership of the Romanian Football Federation (FRF) has to ensure that the nation's international commitments, its presence in the World Cup finals this summer in particular, are fulfilled. The league is due to restart in a modified form in the spring — the harshness of the Romanian winter forces a split season — and the national team needs a calming down period after the traumas of the last few weeks.

On the other hand, the legacy of the previous regime makes a return to normalcy difficult. The makeshift wooden cross adorned with the hats of the teenagers massacred in the centre of Bucharest stands only a few hundred yards from the headquarters of the Romanian sports ministry and the football federation, providing a tragic reminder of the magnitude of the task.

Initially, Valentin Ceausescu, the son of the president, was invited to become "master" of Steaua to prevent the intimidation used by their foremost opponents, Dynamo, the team of the Ministry of the Interior. Soon Steaua became the perpetrators of the same kind of excesses. The head of the Securitate, General Tudor Postelnicu, became the patron of Flacara Moreni.

The Barbolescu clan, the relatives of Ceausescu in the village of Scornicești, sponsored FC Olt. Nicu, the heir-apparent, became the "supporter" of Inter Sibiu while the top brass in Bucharest Securitate threw their weight behind Victoria Bucharest.

Universitatea Craiova and Poli Timisoara became the symbols of dissidence in football. While the students from Timisoara paid for their gallant attempt to challenge with relegation, the former champions, Universitatea Craiova, became the leading resistance club against injustice in football.

Universitatea's wins against Steaua, Dynamo, Victoria and Olt were greeted by supporters throughout the country as triumphs for justice.

Not unexpectedly, the free football fraternity in Romania voted the full back, Gheorghe Popescu, of Craiova, as the best player of 1989. Despite threats, Popescu resisted bravely



AFTER THE REVOLUTION

Romania has long been renowned for sporting excellence. Chris Than, a Romanian journalist who is based in

England, has returned to his homeland to see how the fall of the Ceausescu regime has affected sport and

sportsmen there. In the second of a three-part series, he considers how the upheavals will affect the national football

team as it prepares for the World Cup finals and how the rugby union side has suffered the heaviest losses

the attempts of the Ceausescus to poach him for the army club.

"During my national service, when I was at a school for reserve officers, Ilie Ceausescu once sent three armed soldiers to take me to him in order to intimidate me into signing for Steaua," Popescu said. "I told him they can do anything they wanted with me but I was not going to play for Steaua."

The corruption theme is present in every newspaper article in the Romania's free Press. The appointments of referees have come under fire and they are going to be investigated. Newspapers write about how senior Romanian football clubs began to dictate to the editor of *Sportul*, Cornel Popescu, the appointment of sympathetic writers to cover their matches. However, personalities like Gheorghe Popescu and the former international goalkeeper, Ion Voinescu, refused to compromise.

"The Football Federation became a genuine Mafia," Voinescu, still a legendary name in Romanian sport, said.

After the revolution, Voinescu, who won 40 caps between 1949 and 1962, has decided to pick up his association with football and tackle some of the ills which afflicted the game.

"I have to confess I was not a



Stark symbol of a nation's sacrifice: the wooden cross in Bucharest

hero," he said. "I did not join the revolution. It rather swept me away. I live near television and I went out to buy some bread and there it was, a huge column of youngsters. Suddenly, someone recognized me and shouted: 'Voinescu is here.' Very soon everyone was chanting: 'Voinescu is with us,' and they cheered endlessly.

"I have been cheered many a time on various stadiums. But this was something special. This was real life. It was the first time I was cheered as a citizen. I can safely say that this was the most important experience of my life. Suddenly, I felt ashamed. Those kids were prepared to die to change the face of the country and I was unable to take a moral stand. This was a moral revolution. The youngsters wanted to get rid

of the old ways. I'm just worried now that some people are trying to hijack the revolution."

There are few people so well placed as Voinescu to effect change. Even one of the new deputy sports ministers, the former football international, Cornel Dinu, must overcome criticism attracted by his association with both Dynamo Bucharest and FC Olt, as a player and a coach respectively.

However, he was the first athlete to appear on television publicly supporting the National Salvation Front in its hour of need and he was rewarded with an official position, a decision criticized by several newspapers.

The Sports Minister, Mircea Angelescu, made clear that he intends to stand down as president of the Football Federation at the

annual general meeting on February 5. He is a competent administrator and, as in most other walks of life in Romania, he is needed, since there is a shortage of competent sports administrators able to nurture Romanian sports through this difficult period.

Angelescu is helped by three vice-presidents, Dinu, Stefan Covaci, the former manager of Ajax Amsterdam, and Ion Alexandrescu.

Voinescu has warm words about his former club-mate in the Romanian team, the present manager of Romania, Emeric Jenei.

"Jenei was always a very correct man," he said. "While he was manager of Steaua he maintained a precarious balance between the needs of the team and the demands of the 'patrons'. After the



Belodedici can be assured of a warm welcome from his colleagues

team won the European Cup he got involved in a series of exchanges with General Ilie Ceausescu, who kept threatening him with dismissal.

"I remember once when Jenei, really fed up, challenged the general saying: 'Sir, stop threatening me. If you don't like what I do, please let me go.' Luckily, Jenei became the coach of the national team."

The former Romanian manager, Mircea Lucescu, now in charge of Unirea Tricolor, also commands respect. Although associated with a dreaded police club as a player and coach, Lucescu never became a heavy-handed football dictator.

While FC Olt and Victoria Bucharest have been disbanded — their players have been given free transfers to join either their former clubs or new ones — the future of Flacara Moreni seems uncertain. No decision has yet been taken on the fate of two military clubs, Steaua and Dynamo.

Dynamo's hasty change of name to Unirea Tricolor led to a series of protests from former members of the pre-war Unirea Tricolor club (the name taken over by a textile firm for more than two decades). But they will take part in the semi-finals of the Cup Winners' Cup against Partizan Belgrade.

"Both Dynamo and Steaua will have to go in their present form and we must find a different method of funding them," Angelescu said. "We want them to be independent from their present sponsors and in the future their budget will be provided by the sports ministry rather than the army and the police. In the end, like all other clubs in the country, they'll have to become self-financing structures."

Once the perks associated with playing for Steaua or Dynamo are gone, the players will try to rejoin either their former clubs or those who offer better deals. It is

reported that the leading Steaua player, Hagi, has contacted his former club, Spartak Stuttes, for a possible transfer. Yet he is unlikely to last long in Romania. It is expected that he will sign a lucrative deal with an Italian club after the World Cup.

The new secretary of the Romanian federation, the former international, Mircea Sandu, said: "Romanian football is going to develop the professional structure. The details are not yet definitive. The players will form their own trade union. The championships are to be restructured into two pools of eight between March and the end of the season. The federation is looking for new headquarters to set up an independent administration."

He added that on January 25 Romania would start preparing for the World Cup finals with a three-match tour to France and Algeria.

In a remarkable change of approach, the Romanian federation has invited Miodrag Belodedici, previously much criticized for defecting to Yugoslavia a few years ago, to play for Romania in the World Cup. The manager, Emeric Jenei, spoke with Belodedici and Red Star Belgrade officials on the phone and will fly to Belgrade shortly, hoping to remove any remaining obstacle for Belodedici joining the Romanian squad in Italy.

Belodedici has expressed an interest in playing for Romania. But he has wondered publicly whether his former teammates, like Iovan, Hagi, Lacatus, Lung Sabau or Popescu, will ever forgive him for his decision to defect or, as he put it, "to let them down when they had such a rough time."

There is very little doubt that the rest of the Romanian team will welcome the return of such an outstanding player. Most will receive him with open arms with a kind of affection and understanding.

A nation remembers the martyrs who led by example



Victim of the struggle: Murariu

Romanian rugby union is mourning dead heroes. The often empty phrase "leading by example," used in match reports, has acquired a terrible meaning during the bloody days of the revolution.

The Romanian rugby fraternity lost five brave men, who died either in a hail of bullets or were crushed to death by tanks, the greatest loss of any sport in the country.

The names of my departed friends, Florica Murariu and Radu Durban, both former captains of Romania, have already attracted international attention but mention must be made of others, the equally brave Florin Butir, Mihai Toporan and Stan Bogdan, who died, and of Constantin Christian and Vasile Ungureanu, who were injured.

"They died to make sure that we are free. We have an obligation towards them. We cannot dis-

appoint our martyrs," Radu Demian, the interim secretary of the Romanian Rugby Federation, said. The main priority of the new secretary — who played in No. 8 for Romania and Toulon in France during the Sixties — is to organize the first free election in the post-war history of the federation.

Second, he has to devise survival plans for rugby after a decade of neglect and downright hostility from the communist authorities because of the sport's Western outlook and the close friendship which developed between players and administrators on either side of the now drawn Iron Curtain.

Two years ago Demian rejected an offer to become the secretary of the federation: "I refused to be appointed simply because the former National Sports Council was like a sandcastle, a structure ready to collapse because of the incompetence and indifference of

those who are supposed to run Romanian sport," he said.

"The decline of Romanian rugby internationally is just a reflection of the desperate state of the game in the country. We don't have grounds. We have fewer grounds now than we had 10 years ago. There are clubs where they simply cannot afford to buy jerseys."

"We can't afford to buy boots and balls because we couldn't spend any hard currency. The daily allowance for food for players were not enough even to cater for the breakfast. And the activist who had run the sport expected us to be able to match France and England."

Romanian rugby officials have broken the Ceausescu legal strait-jacket to be able to survive. Romanian players were forbidden by the tyrant's laws to keep more than about £2 of their daily International Rugby Board allowance.

Irimescu Moraru, Radulescu or Mihalache simply ignored the law. The commissars of Romanian sport were left unaware of Romania's membership to the International Rugby Board.

In 1987, after the World Cup, the then Romanian secretary, Christescu Mitrea, and the coaching administrator, Dumitru Mihalache, decided to sign the application form without the knowledge of their superiors. I smuggled the paper out of the country and a day later it landed on the desk of Bob Weighill (secretary of the English Rugby Football Union). Romania became an associate member of the board and was accepted to play in the World Cup.

The frustration and anger of the Romanian players led to countless defections and one of the earliest decisions of the newly installed authorities was to cancel the

Ceausescu law on defections — which labelled the athletes traitors and sentenced them to many years in prison.

Two of the most recent defectors, Laurentiu Constantin, who defected in Agen in 1987 and Christian Radulescu, who stayed behind in Edinburgh last December, have been invited to play for Romania in Italy in April and against France in May.

Viorel Moraru, who had been thrown out of his job coaching his club, Grivita Rosie, after the defection of his son Octavian, has re-emerged among the group of determined men willing to put Romanian rugby back on the map.

The former coaching administrator, Valeriu Irimescu, one of the architects of Romania's ascendancy during the 1970s and early 1980s, is also among them. However, the Romanians are faced with

an uphill struggle as the number of players in the country has declined steadily to the present all-time low of about 6,000, 7,000.

Demian said: "We are unable to go on this year to Japan and New Zealand. We are aware that the cancellation of a rugby tour is a terrible blow to the host nation but we ask both Japan and New Zealand to show understanding for our predicament in this hour of need. We need time to rebuild."

"And one more thing, on behalf of our youngsters deprived of any Western rugby television coverage for more than a decade, we appeal to those who could help to give Romania free coverage of this year's five nations' championship."

TOMORROW
How Olympic sports will benefit from the revolution

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Plots	Off/P	Runs to resort	Weather + temp (°C)	Last snow fall
AUSTRIA							
Ischgl	3 13	worn varied			closed	sun 0	6/1
Only glacier skiing at Stubai worthwhile.							
FRANCE							
Chamonix	8 40	worn varied			closed	fine -1	22/12
Plots worn but snow holding due to cold weather							
Flaine	3 50	varied rocky			closed	fine -4	22/12
All runs have snow/rocky and icy patches							
ITALY							
Cortina	15 50	fair varied			closed	sun 0	23/12
Majority of runs open due to snow cannons, few queues							
SWITZERLAND							
Arosa	10 30	fair varied			worn	fine 0	6/1
Most runs either rocky with icy patches or dry and flat. Best skiing on Hohe Tauern							
Davos	15 77	good varied			closed	fine -2	6/1
Generally good skiing on quiet slopes							
Grindelwald	0 10	worn none			closed	fine -2	24/12
Grindelwald: no snow, no skiing							
Saas Fee	3 75	fair varied			closed	fine -5	6/1
Still good skiing on glacier above 2400m							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCOTLAND
Cairngorms: Snow level, 2,500ft; vertical runs, 3,000ft; upper, very little skiable snow; middle, no skiable runs; lower, only a dusting of snow; access roads right snow covered; ski lifts open; all others closed; all lifts closed. Glencoe: Insufficient snow for skiing at all levels; no lifts or runs operating. Loch Lomond: Snow for skiing; access roads clear, but a little ice all down closed. Aonach: Snow level, 2,800ft; vertical runs, 1,000ft; runs upper, hard snow with a dusting of rain; lower, no snow. Glencoe: Insufficient snow for skiing; all lifts and runs closed; access roads open. Forecast for the Scottish ski resorts for Wednesday: Outbreaks of rain, falling as snow above around 3,500ft, will soon move away and lighter weather will spread from the west reaching all ski areas during the morning. Despite the brighter weather, widespread showers will continue over Glencoe and Aonach. Rain, turning to snow above 2,500ft. The cloud base will start well down the mountain before rising to the summits during the morning, only to fall to 1,600ft to 2,000ft during the afternoon. Outlook for Thursday and Friday: The weather will be changeable with rain spreading from the south tomorrow and on Friday, turning to snow above 2,000ft. The winds strong with gales over summits.

NORWAY
Gaul: L 0 U 50
Voss: L 0 U 50
Gaul: L 0 U 50
Voss: L 0 U 50
Information supplied by the Norwegian National Tourist Office.

Screen says yes

Belle Vue have agreed terms for the new speedway season with Joe Screen, the 1989 Young Rider of the Year. Screen should sign this week.

Tongans want to host a tour by Wales

By David Hands

The Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) hopes to be able to announce plans for an end-of-season tour when its general committee meets next month. Last month the prospect of a visit to Japan fell through because of involvement in World Cup qualifying matches, and the WRU tour committee has since canvassed various alternatives likely to offer meaningful preparation for the national squad.

Tonga indicated yesterday that they would be prepared to host the Welsh, against whom they played in 1986 and during the 1987 World Cup. Taniela Tuka, the Tongan Rugby Union secretary, said a short tour would help both countries in their preparations for the 1991 World Cup, while the South Pacific islands, in general, are seeking games against the senior rugby-playing countries who are visiting their part of the world.

England played Fiji in a one-off international at the end of their tour to Australia in 1988 but both France and Scotland have declined to do so. However, Fiji are to tour Japan in late February in order to develop their rugby.

Teague has point to prove

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Mike Teague, who returned with England's training party from the Canaries on Monday evening having been relegated to the replacements for next week's international against Ireland, will make his first league appearance of the season for Gloucester on Saturday, in their first division match at Leicester.

Teague, the England and British Isles flanker, has made only one club appearance since recovering from a damaged shoulder. Otherwise, his abbreviated season has been taken up with divisional matches and the odd guest appearance. But now he takes over from Henry Clark in his club position of No. 8 in a

pack which also includes Richard and Pascal, the returning divisional and England B props. The man who will occupy the No. 6 shirt for England at Twickenham, Mickey Skinner, will miss Harlequins' league game with Rosslyn Park because he has extended his stay in the Canaries. Chris Sheehy will take his place.

Bath welcome back Stuart Barnes, their captain and stand-off half, after six weeks absence with a torn calf muscle. It will be little comfort to Bedford, without a league win this season, that Bath, the champions, are at their strongest, fielding 12

London Scottish, leaders of the third division, hope to confirm today arrangements for their league game with Exeter. Both Scottish and Richmond, their co-tenants who play Liverpool St Helens, were drawn at the Athletic Ground and Richmond have preference this particular weekend.

Suggestion by Scottish that their game be played on Sunday has been rejected by Exeter. Colin Osborne, Zimbabwe's assistant coach for the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand three years ago, has given Moseley a much needed boost by agreeing to join their coaching panel.

The proposed Welsh league would swallow up 14 of the 18 Saturdays in the first half of next season.

Coventry need to find seven English clubs to replace their Welsh opponents. Waterloo, Nottingham and Rosslyn Park may fill three gaps. The lack of other top-class opposition means that if Coventry are promoted to the Courage Clubs Championship first division, they are likely to play Moseley and Bristol three times next season.

Irish prop out for six weeks

By George Ace

Although an operation has been deemed unnecessary, Jimmy McCoy, the Ireland high-light prop, faces a lengthy period of inactivity. He ruptured a thumb tendon in his right hand during Saturday's Irish trial, was not considered for the match against England at Twickenham on Saturday week and faces six weeks with his thumb in splints.

But if that does not induce a complete recovery, the thumb may remain in splints for a further six weeks.

"I have had a few injuries in my career but a kick in the thumb ruling you out for six weeks and possibly three months surely takes the biscuit," McCoy said yesterday. "I am still hopeful of being fit for the game against France in Paris on March 3."

There are no alarm bells ringing in the Irish camp over the recurrence of the calf muscle injury which forced Des Fitzgerald to miss Sunday's practice. "The muscle tightened up a little following Saturday's session but we expect Fitzgerald to be 100 per cent fit for Twickenham," an IRFU spokesman said yesterday.

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